

CHANDRAYAAN-2: SO CLOSE AND YET

Since June, at least 72 bottles of nail paint have been used at the parlour, the matron said, going through the register. "For the Saturday *mulaqat*, most women request red nail paint. When they have a court hearing outside Tihar, they seem to like transparent paint the most, and foreigners want black nail paint," the matron said.

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Xech Grow Station
review: Green up your
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FROM PAGE ONE

Final 5 minutes

that represented the prescribed change in velocity for a safe landing.

Less than a minute later, the green dot appeared to break away from the red line. It moved inwards, indicating that the rate of change in actual velocity, or deceleration, was happening slower than what was prescribed. It meant that the lander was not slowing down at the required rate.

The green dot's movement was noticed by everyone, but no one showed any signs of worry. Probably because, barely half a minute earlier, the dot had appeared to move away from the prescribed line, but had got back on track.

But this time was different. The green dot kept moving along an independent path for a few more seconds. About 15 seconds later, the first signs of worry appeared on the faces of some scientists, as an announcement was made that the signal from the lander was not being received. The announcement was not heard by people outside the control room, and probably not understood by anyone other than the scientists.

Instructions were exchanged among scientists to make efforts to re-establish contact with the lander. But with the passing seconds, the anxiety on the faces of some of the scientists gave the first indications that something was amiss. At 1.55 am, 17 minutes after the descent began, and about a minute and a half after the loss of signal, ISRO chairman K Sivan, sitting with a row of senior scientists in front of giant screens, pushed his chair back, got up, and walked towards his predecessor A S Kiran Kumar, who was standing a few feet away.

In the visitors' gallery, veteran ISRO scientist B N Suresh, who was explaining some things to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, stopped and looked anxiously towards Sivan. Another veteran ISRO scientist, P S Goel, seated next to the Prime Minister, nervously got to his feet. The seniors could sense what was coming.

As Sivan and Kiran Kumar held discussions with other scientists, another announcement was made that signals from the lander were still not being received. At the time contact was lost, Vikram was just about 2 km above the moon's surface. It was travelling at a speed of about 60 metres/sec, and dropping vertically at about 48 metres/sec. It was clear that if the velocity was not reduced immediately, the lander would meet the Moon's surface at great speed within a few seconds.

But contact with the lander had been lost, and scientists had no way to ascertain whether Vikram had decelerated as it had been programmed to. Nor could they intervene from the ground station to control the speed, if the lander was not being able to do so on its own. They were helpless.

At this point, the most optimistic hope was that the lander had actually completed its descent as planned, but its communication system had developed a problem, because of which contact had been lost. And the worst case scenario was that it had hit the Moon at an uncontrolled higher speed.

Even as Sivan and Kiran Kumar worked with the scientists trying to re-establish contact, the drooping shoulders and despairing faces told the story. Five minutes later, Sivan decided to finally break the news to the Prime Minister. He listened intently and, af-

WEB
EXCLUSIVE



DANIIL MEDVEDEV: A PANTOMIME RUSSIAN ANTAGONIST IN NEW YORK

Daniil Medvedev, quite uncharacteristically, lifted his hands and just clapped his racket like a mild-mannered person in admiration of the New York crowd after his US Open semi-final win against Bulgaria's Grigor Dimitrov Friday. Turning the clock to a week back, the Russian's antics on reaching his first-ever Grand Slam final was almost an unthinkable thought

VIDEO OF THE DAY



CHANDRAYAAN-2
SETBACK

PM Narendra Modi
consoles ISRO chief

FULL COVERAGE



ISRO'S VIKRAM
LANDER IS LOST

But this hardly
matters. Here's why.

‘Easing of curbs in J&K depends on Pak’

media, were invited for the interaction in the Prime Minister's Office.

Replying to questions on the detention of scores of politicians, including three former chief ministers of J&K, Doval said the detentions were all preventive in nature and that no one has been charged with any criminal offence. "At this stage, we cannot allow politicians to address gatherings of large crowds," he asserted. "Such a situation can be used by militants and it will be up to the state government to decide when to release them and when the environment is conducive."

He added that over the decades, politicians in J&K had no accountability towards the people and that at present, village leaders and sarpanches had gained in popularity.

Doval said all the actions of the Centre were "justiciable", hinting that issues such as the

removal of statehood and the preventive detentions could be confronted legally. "Everything being done is justiciable and people can challenge the actions in court like some have already done. They can complain and attempt to get a redressal. We will explain in court or pay the cost."

Giving an assessment of the ground situation, Doval pointed out that restrictions had been lifted in 92 per cent of the area of Jammu and Kashmir and that, gradually, further restrictions would also be removed. He, however, did not commit to any time-frame for this.

He acknowledged that the absence of Internet and mobile telephony was causing prolonged hardship but added, "People were not born with Internet. For us, it is more important to protect the right of life of the people and keep them safe."

Elaborating on the hard in-

telligence being gathered since signals from mobile towers located along the border can be intercepted, Doval revealed that they had recently received information about 230 militants waiting to infiltrate into the Valley along 10 border posts. "Some of them have been arrested but some have also managed to infiltrate. Subversion is the only instrument available with Pakistan but we are determined to stop them and prevent them from smuggling arms into India," he asserted.

He said he was particularly "disturbed" when on Friday night militants attacked the family members of Hamidullah Rather, an apple trader residing in Dangarpura, a village close to the fruit market of Sopore. The attack was aimed at stopping the transit of 750 trucks laden with apples to reach markets across the country. The trader's son and grand-daughter were injured in the attack and the

child was now being brought to the Capital for treatment, he said, adding that the militants were on the run.

The NSA spoke at length on the background to the abrogation of Article 370 and described it as an "internal arrangement" of India. He said, "The Constitution has been amended several times and this is an internal matter for India. This (the BJP) is the party which has come to power and abrogation is something that has been put on its election manifesto every time. Just prior to the 2019 elections, the Pakistani media was also reporting that India would do something like this. The people of the state have been deprived of their democratic rights for 70 years and this will finally give them their Constitutionally guaranteed rights. Article 370 did not give special status but ensured special discrimination."

Pak says President Kovind can't use its airspace

to France and back to India. But in June, when Pakistan had closed its airspace, Modi had to take a detour on his way to Bishkek in Kyrgyzstan — though Islamabad had granted permission for his flight.

Sources said the government had decided to approach Pakistan for Kovind's flight. But, with Islamabad's refusal, sources said the government is unlikely to approach Pakistan later this month, when Modi goes to the US to attend the United Nations General Assembly and other engagements in New York and Houston.

Pakistan had fully closed

its airspace on February 26, after the Indian Air Force fighter jets struck a Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) terrorist training camp in Balakot in retaliation to the Pulwama attack on February 14. On July 16, it opened its airspace for all civilian traffic.

But last month, following tension between the two countries after India's decision to scrap Jammu and Kashmir's special status, the Pakistan government said it was once again considering closure of its airspace for Indian flights. However, it is yet to announce its decision so far.

Kovind will embark on a

visit to Iceland, Switzerland and Slovenia from Monday, during which he is expected to brief the top leadership in those countries on India's "national concerns", especially in view of terror incidents this year, including the Pulwama attack.

The latest round of diplomatic tit-for-tat comes at a time when India has put across its point to the international community that J&K is India's internal matter and any issues between India and Pakistan will be resolved bilaterally between the two countries.

Earlier, Pakistan decided to downgrade diplomatic ties

and expelled the Indian High Commissioner. It has also stopped all bilateral trade. Pakistan PM Khan has said that he will raise the Kashmir issue at every international forum, including at the UN General Assembly next month.

During airspace closure from February to July, Indian passengers and foreign tourists coming to India had to bear the burden of additional time and money, apart from inconvenience caused to them.

According to the government's own admission, Indian airlines suffered losses worth Rs 548 crore due to airspace closure by Pakistan.

we don't know the exact speed," this scientist said.

He pointed out that what happened to Vikram would depend on the speed of the impact.

"It was supposed to withstand a maximum shock of landing at a speed of 5 metres per second. So, at any speed higher than that, it would not have been able to balance itself vertically... As of now, there is no way to know whether it lies intact, or has been partially or totally destroyed as a result of the hard landing. What is clear is that if it is not standing erect, the rover would not be able to come out of it," the scientist said.

It was much more difficult, the scientist said, to tell why Vikram failed to stick to its prescribed deceleration profile. "Maybe one or more thrusters did not work properly. But they were apparently working properly for the first 13 minutes of the descent, because that part of the journey was made perfectly. So something could have happened midway. Only a detailed scientific investigation would be able to diagnose what went wrong," he said.

"But it will be sad if Chandrayaan-2 is described as a failure because the lander did not land properly. I would say more than 90 per cent of the science is still intact in this mission and we must not ignore that," the scientist said.

Child injured

Asma, and her father Arshad Rather — are out of danger.

The suspected militants commandeered a vehicle in which two small-time fruit growers, Mohammad Ashraf and Mohammad Ramzan, were headed home to Dangerpora

village in Sopore. They forced the two men to drive to the home of a prominent local fruit trader, Hameedullah Rather.

"There was a knock on the door of our house. When I opened the door, I saw them (Ashraf and Ramzan). They are known to me," Arshad Rather, the son of Hameedullah Rather, said. "I also saw two gunmen with them. They (the militants) asked for my father."

Arshad said he went upstairs to call Hameedullah Rather, whom he met offering prayers. "I did not think it appropriate to disturb him," Arshad said.

"As I came down, I saw them (the militants) holding Ashraf and Ramzan to the ground. They shot them in their legs. As I reached downstairs, there was commotion, and they (the militants) fired again. I was hit in my leg, and later learned that my daughter too, was injured," he said.

The three men and the girl were taken to Srinagar's Bone and Joint (B&J) Hospital, where Asma was referred to the Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS).

Ashraf said the militants had fired at them with pistols. "It seemed that they wanted to warn us," he said. "They (the militants) asked why we had opened our shops when they had warned us against doing so several times."

The Sopore fruit mandi is Asia's second largest wholesale fruit market.

On Saturday morning, J&K Police posted on Twitter: "Terrorists fired and injured four persons including a baby girl (Usma Jan) at Dangerpora, Sopore. All injured shifted to the hospital and stated to be stable. Police on spot and investigation in progress."

DM Choudhary tweeted: "Baby Asma of 30 months is among the injured in militant attack on fruit merchants in Sopore. She didn't deserve this. We've put in all efforts to get an air ambulance ASAP to take her to Delhi for advanced medical attention. Prayers are requested."

Asma's uncle Ajaz Ahmad said: "Throughout the day, they (government officials) were trying to convince us that they would airlift her (Asma) to New Delhi but we didn't agree. We told them that the doctors have told us she is fine and there is no need for sending her there. We told them if needed, we would take her outside (Kashmir) on our own."

SC employee

don't want any further action and there is no pressure on me. It is my personal choice, no one should worry for me."

While the woman could not be contacted, her husband said: "I am not aware of the closure report... Last I know is that the court dismissed their application to cancel my wife's bail."

On Friday, the court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate dismissed the Delhi Police's application after Kumar failed to appear in court for the third time. The court observed that "no fruitful purpose would be served by keeping the application pending".

Police had on March 10 arrested the woman in the alleged cheating case and sent her to judicial custody the following day. She was granted bail on March 12. On March 14, the investigation was transferred to the Crime Branch and the complainant then sent an application to the DCP (Crime Branch), alleging that he was being threatened by the woman and her associates.

In their closure report, police are learnt to have mentioned that they made efforts to connect the dots, but their in-

vestigation got struck as a "middleman", who allegedly took money from Kumar, died.

"Police have also attached Kumar's statement wherein he has stated that he is satisfied with the investigation of the Delhi Police and believes they put in all efforts to solve the case, but since the man who got the payment is no more, he does not want any further legal action against the woman and wants to close the case," a senior police officer said, adding that they also stated in the closure report that if they get fresh evidence in the future, they will reopen the case. Police are set to submit the closure report in the case to a Delhi court soon.

When The Indian Express visited Kumar's Jhajjar home in April, his mother Meena, 50, had said that she had told him "not to file the case" since it was "not wise to fight with powerful people". According to his family, Kumar used to work as a security guard at H L City Pvt Ltd in Jhajjar, earning Rs 15,000 a month.

V-C resigns

of a contractor. Dharurkar has denied the allegations and said the video clip was edited to make it look like he was taking a bribe.

In his resignation letter, Dharurkar has blamed a section of media for "damaging the image of the university every day". He has claimed that he was facing problems from a "scrupulous person" against whom he had "taken action for corruption".

Speaking to *The Sunday Express*, Dharurkar said, "The former Registrar in-charge of the university, Shanit Debroy, is behind the entire (sting video) episode. I had demoted him to the post of Deputy Registrar and did not allow him to apply for the post of Registrar as he did not have a Masters degree. He had a fake diploma in management from Patna. He had moved the court, but recently we won the case in the Tripura High Court. He had already retired and was using his newspaper *Aajker Fariyad* and other local media houses against me. My decision to initiate an inquiry into a Rs 10 crore e-book scam also went against me."

"The (video) recording was done two months before the Lok Sabha polls. The concocted video was aired on September 5. Today, they played another clip. It relates to our plan to launch a Lord Mahavir Chair. Someone from Kolkata wanted to make a donation of Rs 30 lakh and approached me regarding that. That video was edited and they made it look like I am accepting bribe. The old one essentially shows a legitimate exchange of cash involving a contractor," he said.

When contacted, Debroy said, "I have already retired from the university. And the case in the HC has got nothing to do with his resignation. I run a newspaper which is in no way associated with *News Vanguard* (news channel) that aired the sting video."

The purported sting video, however, isn't the only reason the government is unhappy with Dharurkar. Within months of his joining, the HRD Ministry received complaints alleging financial irregularities and against appointments of guest teachers made by Dharurkar. In April, the government sought a report from the university Registrar on the complaints.

Last month, Dharurkar had hoisted a flag of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) during an event on the campus. Defending his action, he said the ABVP was a "social and cultural organisation" and "not related to any party".

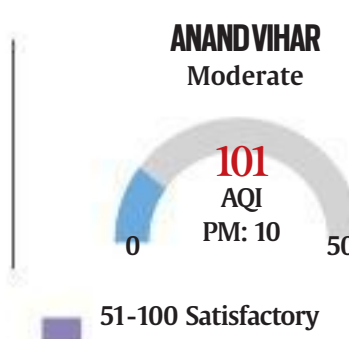
THE INDIAN Institute of Management (IIM) Lucknow will conduct three sessions starting Sunday on 'Leadership Development Programme' for all the ministers in the Uttar Pradesh government.

The programme is scheduled to take place on September 8, 15 and 22 and will focus on different aspects of leadership and decision making. The event on Sunday will also be attended by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

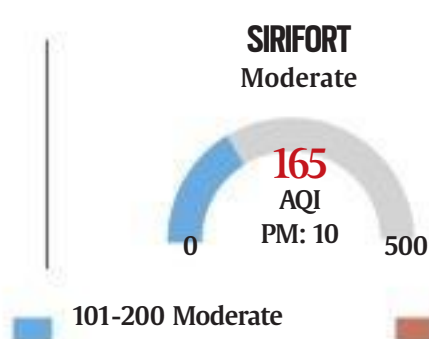
According to a press statement issued by the government, the programme is designed to help political leaders demonstrate capabilities to think strategically and implement them, keeping in mind today's dynamic and globally integrated scenario. Each module would be delivered through a blend of individual and group learning methods that would include group discussions, case analysis, exercise, simulations, audio visuals and groups assessment.



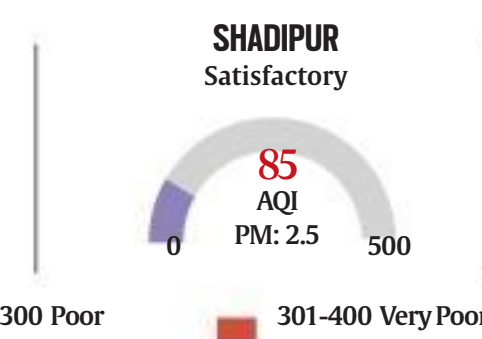
0-50 Good



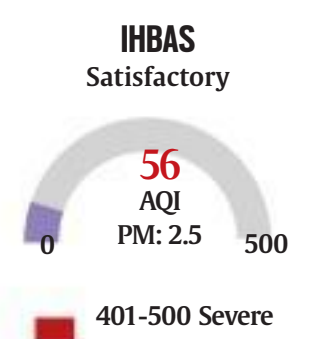
51-100 Satisfactory



101-200 Moderate



201-300 Poor



301-400 Very Poor

401-500 Severe

AFTER FINE RAISED TO Rs 10,000

Queues lasting 10 hrs as vehicle owners scurry to get pollution certificates

SHIVAM PATEL & ANANYA TIWARI
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

QUEUES EXTENDING for more than 10 hours, squabbles over waiting time and hundreds of vehicles being checked for emissions — a week after the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019, came into force, pollution checking centres in Delhi-NCR have seen a sudden hike in customers. On Saturday, several pollution checking centres in Delhi's Kalkaji, Lodhi Road, Karol Bagh, Patparganj and nearby Noida and Gurgaon had hundreds of vehicles waiting in queues to take a test for the "pollution under check" (PUC) certificate.

A senior Delhi transport department official said more than 50,000 PUC certificates were issued Saturday — far more than



Long line at a pollution checking centre in Greater Noida. Praveen Khanna

the roughly 10,000 a day from previous months.

"There is a three-fold increase in the number of vehicles taking the tests at centres, and this is because the penalty amount for violating emission norms has also increased... This is a positive step and it will keep air pollution in check in the city," the official said.

Under the amended act,

penalty for PUC violations has increased to Rs 10,000. The fine used to be Rs 1,000 for first offence and Rs 2,000 for subsequent violations. An attendant at a Kalkaji pollution checking centre said, "People who were not willing to wait even a minute are waiting for hours. A customer demanded to be served first claiming he is a doctor, we told him to

come back early tomorrow."

At a station near Lodhi Road, around 200 vehicles were waiting to be checked. Around 150 would be checked by the end of day, attendants said, citing frequently crashing servers and commotion caused by people jumping the queue.

Puya Lal (60), an autorickshaw driver, was in queue near

Lodhi Road since 10 am. "I came yesterday and all slots were filled. I returned today, they tested my rickshaw by 4 pm but told me it failed. I will have to wait four more hours to get it redone."

A PUC test involves checking for air pollutants emitted by vehicles, such as carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons. The test costs between Rs 60 and Rs 100. The validity of the certificate is one year for BS IV vehicles and three months for others.

Noida

Long queues were witnessed at checking centres in Sectors 10 and 98. A staff member at a testing centre in Sector 10 said, "Till last month, we would sit idle in our cabin with a few vehicles coming in. Now there's no time to eat lunch."

After closing time, vehicles that are still in queue have to

come back the following day to queue again, and there is a first come first served policy. A resident of Sector 93 said the closest checking centre in Sector 105 had long queues Friday and Saturday. "In front of the centre, there were some bike owners who had snatched the machine from the operator and were checking their bike exhausts themselves, without any regard for people waiting in queues," he said.

Gurgaon

Babloo Kumar, a pollution check employee at a petrol station near IFFCO Chowk Metro station, said, "We used to get 10-15 cars per day; now it's 40-50. But there is no jam as such, it is quite smooth." Anil Kumar, who works at a petrol station nearby, also attested that while the rush was intense for the first two days, it has gone down now.



26 fire tenders were deployed at the site. Praveen Khanna

Accountant dead as godown full of oil goes up in flames

SOMYA LAKHANI
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

A 28-YEAR-OLD man died after a 'massive' category fire broke out at a three-storey lubricant oil godown in West Delhi's Punjabi Bagh Saturday afternoon. At least 26 fire tenders and over 100 firefighters were deployed to douse it, said Delhi Fire Services (DFS) chief Atul Garg.

The charred body of Romit Kumar, an accountant at the godown, was found inside his cabin on the first floor at 8 pm.

"We received a call at 4.57 pm, and around 8 pm, a man walked up to us and said he couldn't find his brother who worked at the godown. The fire had been doused by then and the cooling operation was on," said Ajay Sharma, divisional fire officer.

Sharma said a team of firefighters was formed to find Kumar. "His body was found inside his cabin. When we reached the spot, no one took responsibility of the building, and as per protocol, firefighters asked if anyone was trapped. We received no such information," said Sharma.

Additional DCP (West) Sameer Sharma said Kumar's family reached the spot after they couldn't get through his phone. Kumar lived with his parents and brother in Prem Nagar.

Garg said the fire spread to a godown next door as well, but was contained there. "The buildings are 500 square yards in size and have no fire NOC," said Garg.

Sharma said the setback area — three metres in size around the godown — had three tankers filled with oil. "One tanker had a capacity of 15,000-20,000 litres, and the other two had a capacity of 10,000 litres each. The area was used to store hazardous material," said Sharma.

The basement and the ground floor of the building had drums with 200 litres of oil each, and at least 12 oil drums burst in the presence of the firefighters. "We strategised and decided to begin cooling of the three tankers first," said Sharma.

Initially, five fire tenders were deployed. With the fire getting worse, by 7 pm at least 26 fire tenders were part of the mission. Garg said that the cause of the fire is yet to be determined. Additional DCP (West) said: "Investigation so far has revealed that the buildings are used to store lubricant oil. A case under IPC section 285 (negligent conduct with respect to fire) against unknown persons has been registered at Punjabi Bagh police station." The godown owner is being questioned, police said.

Using plastic may soon attract fine up to Rs 50,000

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

HEFTY FINES have been proposed for non-recyclable plastic users under new bylaws drafted for controlling plastic waste in Delhi, which are expected to be notified by next week, Principal Secretary of Urban Development Manisha Saxena has said.

Fines ranging from Rs 50,000 for bulk users to Rs 2,000 for smaller businesses have been recommended in the new laws. Consumers found accepting single-use plastic products could also be fined.

This comes a month ahead of six single-use plastic products — including bags, cups and straws — being reportedly banned across the nation on October 2.

"We have sent the draft to the law department for vetting. We are hoping to notify it by next week... We have asked local bodies to stay ready and would be running an awareness campaign as well," Saxena said.

An environment official said single-use plastic products would be identified under the bylaws and penalties imposed on those found using them.

Local bodies and the Delhi Pollution Control Committee



New bylaws are expected to be notified by next week

would be executing the laws, with the environment department acting as a regulatory body,

the official said. "These are products that are unnecessary and everyday work

can continue without them as well. They would be phased out as a ban would be imposed on them the same day the bylaws are notified," the environment official said.


As per the Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016, local bodies were to seek assistance of producers that use plastic and set up a management system within one year from March. Local bodies were also to frame bylaws incorporating the provision for these rules.

"Other states already have such bylaws in place and are imposing fines. In Delhi, it has faced a severe delay due to some reasons," the environment official said.

"The rules are very comprehensive and clearly define the responsibility of each person and authority with regard to penal provision," the official said.


According to the Central Pollution Control Board's estimates, the city produced more than 2.30 lakh tons of plastic in 2016-17. This includes single-use, or disposable, plastic waste which often cannot be recycled and ends up choking landfill sites in the city.


In 2017, the National Green Tribunal had banned plastic bags of less than 50 microns and disposable plastic across Delhi.




DELHI POLICE
SHANTI SEWA NYAYA

YOUR SWEET HOME KEEP IT SAFE & SECURE







Ensure that the windows and doors are well guarded by strong grills




Install a peep hole and safety door chain to avoid unwanted entry.



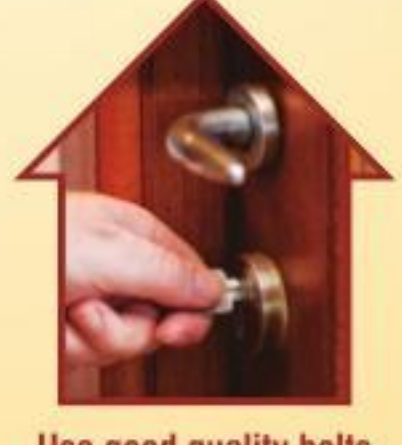
Don't let stranger and unidentified people in without identification.



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Have your surrounding well lighted.



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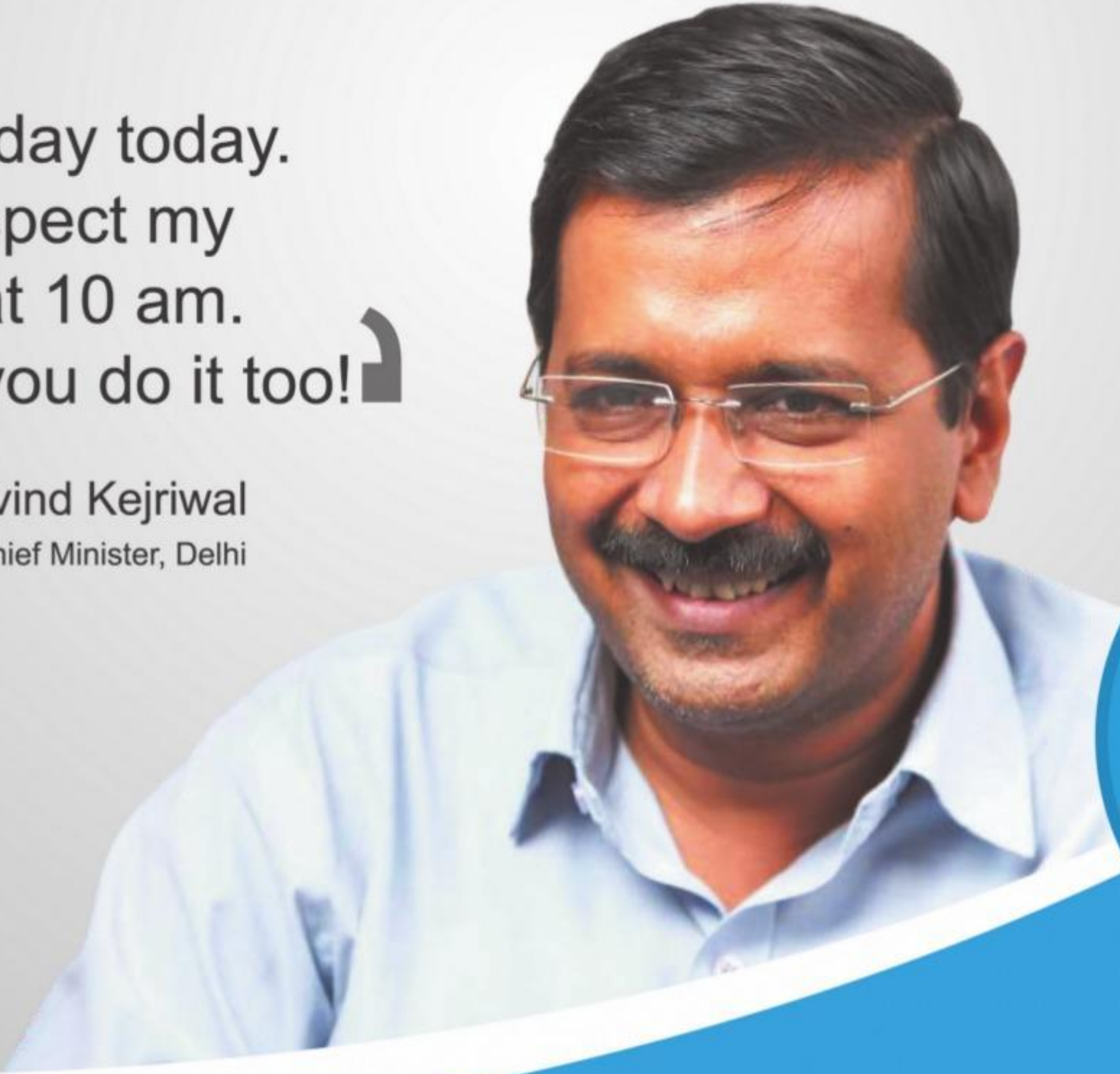
IT'S SUNDAY!

Come join this fight against Dengue today

10 हफ्ते . 10 बजे. 10 मिनट.

It's Sunday today.
I will inspect my
house at 10 am.
I hope you do it too!

- Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi



डेंगू के
वार हर
रविवार

Dear Delhiites,

Today at 10 o'clock, we have to inspect our homes to check if clean water has accumulated anywhere. We have to ensure that clean water has not collected inside flowerpots, coolers, vases, or anywhere inside or outside our house. If clean water has accumulated, we need to pour it out, change it, or add petrol or oil to it. We should inspect our homes every Sunday at 10 am for the next 10 weeks to save our family from Dengue and Chikungunya. After inspecting your house, do take a selfie and WhatsApp it to 8287972050

दिल्ली कर दिखाएगी

दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

Health Department, Government of NCT of Delhi

दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

BRIEFLY

Man stabbed to death, 3 minors held

New Delhi: A 19-year-old man was stabbed to death, allegedly by his three juvenile friends, over personal enmity in Eastern range, police said. All three accused have been apprehended and sent to a correction home.

Woman jumps in front of Metro train

New Delhi: A 26-year-old woman committed suicide by jumping in front of an oncoming train at the Model Town Metro station Saturday. Police officials said that services on the Delhi Metro's Yellow Line were briefly disrupted.

Teen's body found in canal

New Delhi: The body of an 18-year-old was retrieved from a canal in Faridabad, a day after he allegedly committed suicide by jumping into a stream in South East Delhi's Jaitpur. Police said that a 16-year-old girl, too, jumped with him, but was rescued.

FIR against 2 women for 'child lifting'

New Delhi: A case of kidnapping was filed against two women in South East Delhi's Okhla Industrial area after they allegedly tried to flee with a child Friday. The women were allegedly beaten up by residents who raised an alarm when the father of the child saw them, said police. DCP (South East) Chinmoy Biswal said: "An FIR has been filed." ENS

'FINAL RESULTS WILL BE WITHHELD'

Counting delayed, Left panel leads JNU student union polls

ARANYASHANKAR
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

AT AROUND 11 pm, when 550 out of the 5,762 votes polled in the Jawaharlal Nehru University Students' Union (JNUSU) polls had been counted, the United Left Panel was leading comfortably in all four posts.

For the post of President, AISA's Aishe Ghosh was leading with 266 votes ahead of Ambedkarite BAPSA's Jitendra Suna who got 108 votes. At the post of Vice-President, Secretary and Joint Secretary too, Left candidates Saket Moon, Satish Chandra Yadav and Mohd Danish were ahead by 271, 122 and 244 votes respectively.

While BAPSA-Fraternity alliance was on second position in President and Secretary — the only two seats they are contesting — the ABVP was on the second spot in the positions of Vice-President and Joint Secretary.

The election process was



At the campus on Saturday. Praveen Khanna

thrown into disarray following the Delhi High Court order asking for a stay on the declaration of the poll results — the counting of votes, which was to begin at 9 pm Friday, finally began at 3 pm Saturday, EC officials said.

A part of the delay was due to the deadlock between the Election Committee (EC), student organisations and the administration. The problem continued through the day.

In JNU, elections are held on ballot papers, and voting trends are announced by the EC after the

counting of every few hundred votes. The EC decided Saturday that while the final result will not be announced, voting trends will continue to be announced until a certain point.

"After several meetings with all student organisations, and an internal meeting of EC officials, it was decided that counting agents of the parties will have to sign an undertaking that they will not make public the last 150 votes for the central panel seats, and the last bundle of votes (around 50) for the Councillor

seats," said an EC official, adding that the cumulative result at the end would also not be announced.

The tussle between the administration and students began late last night, when the EC, after deliberations, decided to begin counting at midnight.

CEC Shashank Patel said, "The counting process which was started on September 6 at 11:55 pm, had to be put on hold because of a deadlock situation between the students' community decision about not following the GRC recommendations of undertaking to be given by counting agents, and also in regard to the declaration of final results."

"Because a consensus could not be reached after so many hours, Election Committee decided to resume the counting process with declaration of trends but the final result will be withheld," he added.

GRC chairperson Umesh Kadam did not respond to calls and texts seeking a comment.

Harvard to Oxford, privileges Emeritus Professors enjoy

ARANYASHANKAR
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

THE JAWAHARLAL Nehru University administration last month asked historian Romila Thapar for her CV in order to review her status as Professor Emerita. She is among 12 professors who received the letter as they were over the age of 75.

The move came after JNU's Executive Council in August last year revised the varsity's rules to ensure that a committee appointed by the council would review the continuation of Emeritus Professors after they turn 75, "considering her/his health status, willingness, availability, university needs, etc so that more positions will be available to other potential candidates".

The JNU administration, in its statement last week, cited the case of Princeton University and MIT to argue that universities did "review academic contributions" of Emeritus Professors and even had the right to "rescind" such appointments. The Sunday Express looks at where top universities — ranked among the top 10 in the latest QS Rankings 2020 — stand on the honorary status issue:

■ Harvard University, at rank 3, states that the title is "for life". "A faculty member assumes the emeritus/a status upon retirement when the faculty member (a) retires from a tenured faculty position and (b) has reached the age of 60 or more. If these two conditions are met, the faculty member's title automatically becomes Professor of [Department], Emeritus/a upon retirement. If the individual held an endowed chair while active, that title also carries forward with the Emeritus/a designation. This appointment remains active for the professor's lifetime," Harvard rules state.

■ MIT (rank 1), which JNU had quoted, only says that those Professor Emeriti "who remain active at MIT" have to "report their outside professional activities to their department heads



JNU had asked Romila Thapar for her CV

annually". It does not talk of reviewing the title of those not active at the university.

■ Cambridge University, at rank 7, makes every retiring professor an Emeritus Professor: "A Professor or Reader who retires after the age of sixty shall become an Emeritus Professor or Emeritus Reader, as the case may be, without statutory duties or powers".

■ Stanford University, at rank 2, also doesn't mention anything about a review. "Faculty members who become official University retirees receive the emeritus or emerita title authorised by the Board of Trustees, and Academic Council members become Senior Members of the Academic Council with privileges of the floor and of service on committees, but without the right to vote or hold office."

■ Oxford University, at rank 4, also simply states that the title is bestowed on "any person who has retired over the age of 60 from a professorship, including a personal or titular professorship" and "any person who has retired from a professorship and on whom the title has been conferred by resolution of Council".

■ The University of Chicago, at rank 10, also has no mention of a review period. "Faculty may retire at age fifty-five. A Faculty member who retires from a position on indefinite tenure or who retires from a Faculty position after serving as a Faculty member for twenty years shall be designated a Member Emeritus of the faculty," university's rules state.

JNU Registrar Pramod Kumar said, "In JNU, the number of Emeritus Professors in every school is lopsided. Even within the school, some centres have more Emeritus professors. We wanted to re-evaluate how many people should get it, and for how long."

Manager of Thai eatery held in raid by Excise Dept

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

THE EXCISE department raided an upmarket Thai restaurant and bar, Bo Tai Qutub, in South Delhi's Mehrauli early Saturday morning and seized non-duty paid liquor. The raid began at 1.40 am and a total of six violations were found by police. The restaurant manager has been apprehended, said police.

ACP (Excise Intelligence Bureau) Alok Kumar said: "We found at least 12 bottles of champagne Dom Perignon Vintage 2004, which is non-duty paid liquor (for sale in Haryana). Seven more suspected bottles have been seized."

Police said that the restaurant was running beyond permissible time limit of 1 am, and added that two bar counters were found operational and full bottles were served on tables.

Kumar said that other violations included an arrangement of 79 seats, which is more than the permissible limit, and liquor on display at the show window of the restaurant. Kumar said, "The department will process the cancellation of L17/L17F licence of the restaurant."

When The Sunday Express reached out to the owner of the restaurant, he said he was abroad, and refused to give a statement.

Four wanted men arrested

Ghaziabad: Four wanted men carrying a reward of Rs 25,000 each were arrested by police following shootouts in three separate incidents since Friday evening. All the four arrested men and two policemen suffered gunshot injuries in the incidents.

In one of the incidents near Hindon canal in Vasundhara colony Saturday, police intercepted three suspects. The pillion riders fired on policemen, who retaliated. Two out of the three suspects received gunshot injuries and were arrested. PTI

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4th CONCLAVE

North East Democratic Alliance (NEDA)

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JAVADEKAR, PURI, RAI HOLD CONSULTATIONS

In meetings with BJP leaders, workers push for GST cut

Other suggestions include regularisation of unauthorised colonies, land pooling

ABHINAV RAJPUT
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

DELHI BJP workers, in their meetings with Union ministers Prakash Javadekar, Hardeep Singh Puri and Nityanand Rai, who are overseeing Assembly poll preparation in the capital, have suggested that senior leaders reduce GST on some items, extend land-pooling policy to villages in green belts, and expedite the process of giving legal status to unauthorised colonies.

A senior BJP leader said workers in the West district emphasised on extension of the land-pooling policy, under which owners or groups of owners can pool land parcels of any size for development. Workers in another district-level meeting, on the other hand, suggested a decrease in GST on some items under the 18% tax slab.

Several workers also said regularisation of unauthorised colonies could be a game changer for the party in the elections. Puri, the Union Urban Affairs Minister, had earlier announced the Centre’s plan to confer ownership rights to residents of unauthorised colonies



The BJP has appointed Union Minister Prakash Javadekar as the in-charge for the upcoming Delhi Assembly elections, along with ministers Hardeep Singh Puri and Nityanand Rai

in Delhi. The issue may be brought to the Cabinet soon.

Delhi BJP general secretary Rajesh Bhatia said the three leaders are taking meetings in groups, and at least seven of the 14 districts have been covered. He said that besides feedback, the sessions are meant to send out a message that the party respects workers. District presidents, councillors, mandal presidents and officer bearers attend these meetings.

Senior leaders present at the meet said Javadekar asked the workers to take help from Puri and Rai to get their problems

solved.

The Delhi BJP, which won all seven seats in the Lok Sabha polls, faces a harder task in the Assembly elections, where it will take on the Aam Aadmi Party.

Recently, senior leadership of the party had told its state unit not to criticise various “freebies” being doled by AAP in the run-up to the polls, and to speak in “one voice” when it came to issues concerning the capital. Javadekar has till now met with Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari, state general secretary organisation Siddharthan and MPs from the state.

Protest near CM residence

Members of BJP’s youth wing, the Bharatiya Janta Yuva Morcha, Saturday staged a protest near Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal’s residence demanding that the Delhi government give prosecution sanction in the 2016 JNU sedition case. The activists tried to move past a barricade near Kejriwal’s Flagstaff Road residence, but were stopped by police and taken to a nearby police station, from where they were released later. They also raised slogans against the Delhi government and tore down posters and banners outside the Chief Minister’s residence.

As reported by *The Indian Express*, the Delhi government is set to turn down a request for sanction to prosecute former JNU Students’ Union president Kanhaiya Kumar and others in a 2016 sedition case.

Kejriwal had Friday said the Delhi government has not yet taken any decision on the prosecution sanction against Kumar and others. He added that the home department will take an appropriate decision after considering all facts.



SOME SHELTER

A fresh spell of moderate rain drenched the capital Saturday, providing much-needed relief from the sultry weather. An IMD official said patchy rains would continue till September 20, but humidity levels will remain high. *Praveen Khanna*

1 year on, key accused in Paytm case still at large

AMIL BHATNAGAR
NOIDA, SEPTEMBER 7

SONIA DHAWAN, a vice-president at Paytm who was arrested last year for allegedly conspiring to blackmail the company’s founder, has rejoined the organisation. But Noida Police, for the last one year, has struggled to gather evidence against a key accused in the case, Kolkata resident Rohit Chomal, an NGO owner who had allegedly made extortion calls to the firm’s founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma and his brother Ajay Shekhar Sharma.

Apart from Sonia, her husband Roopak Jain, and Paytm staffer Devendra Jain were arrested on October 23, after a complaint was filed by Ajay alleging personal data theft and extortion at Sector 20 police station. They were arrested for allegedly trying to extort Rs 10 crore from Vijay. According to officers, Vijay’s elder brother Ajay Shekhar Sharma had already paid the accused Rs 69 lakh. “Ajay named four accused in his complaint and alleged Chomal made the extor-

Police, for the past year, have struggled to gather evidence against Kolkata resident Rohit Chomal, an NGO owner who allegedly made extortion calls to Paytm founder Vijay Sharma and his brother Ajay

tion calls from his phone. He allegedly made the first call to Ajay on September 20, and then a WhatsApp call to his brother Vijay. He asked them to transfer Rs 10 crore to his bank account, and threatened to make certain information public if they did not comply,” an officer said. Police claimed that the data, which was in the possession of Chomal, included passwords, bank details and company information. After arresting the trio, police had conducted several raids in Kolkata to nab him, but he remained untraced. He then obtained a stay order on his arrest

from the Allahabad High Court, which stated police needed “sufficient evidence” to arrest him.

“The investigation is over and the charges are being framed. The case rests with the prosecution and we will provide every cooperation as and when required during trial. A chargesheet had been submitted in December which elaborates the findings of the police against the accused, including Rohit Chomal,” said Vaibhav Krishna, SSP (Gautam Budh Nagar).

The then SSP (Gautam Budh Nagar) Ajay Pal Sharma had earlier said it had come to light during investigation that Chomal was Devendra’s friend. “He was hired after being assured of 20% of the extortion amount of Rs 10 crore... the phone numbers were provided to him by Devendra, who also visited Kolkata several times,” the SSP said.

An officer said Chomal’s arrest could shed more light on the case and help “tie up loose ends”.

Sonia Dhawan, when contacted, said she is not in a position to comment on the case or her re-joining the company.



The accused cheated the people of Rs 13 crore in two years, said police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

TWELVE MEN were arrested for allegedly duping over 200 people by making them invest in bogus insurance plans and benefits. Police said they had allegedly cheated around 225 people of Rs 13 crore in the last two years.

Police said the accused include Prabhat Singh, Rupesh, Jitender, Robin Mathew, Dalip Singh, Vishal, Ranjan Garg, Vicky Dhawan, Raj Kumar, Ram Gopal, Jitender Singh and Kanhaiya Rajput.

Police said a 63-year-old retired bank manager lodged a complaint on July 26, and alleged that the accused had cheated him of more than Rs 20 lakh by inducing him to invest in various insurance plans. The complainant had deposited the amount in the various accounts from April 20, 2018, to May 21, 2019.

But when he asked for the money in May, the accused avoided him and demanded more investments, after which he reported the matter to police.

During investigation, police analysed the alleged account statements, and found that over Rs 13 crore was transferred in these fake accounts from over 225 people across the country. “Prabhat was arrested while he was withdrawing money from one of the accounts. On his instance, the other ten accused were arrested from Gurgaon and Faridabad,” said S D Mishra, DCP (Rohini).

Explaining their modus operandi, police said they first opened bank accounts using fake names and addresses and passed the details to their associates, who were running the fake call centres.

“The ‘call centre’ employees would contact the people and convince them to invest in their fake investment plans. When they would transfer the money into their bank accounts, the call centre owners would pass the information to their associates, who later withdrew the amount,” police said. Eight SIM cards, four cheque books and five ATM cards had been recovered from their possession.

कार्यकारी अभियंता, सार्वजनिक बांधकाम विभाग, मिरज

किराज भाग, ग्रंथ अर्धसंस्करण, मिरज-४१६४१०. फोन (०२३३) २२२२६६५, फॅक्स (०२३३) २२२३७६५, Website: www.mahapwd.com e-Mail: miraj.ee@mahapwd.com

जा. क्र. सार्वजनिक/लेखा/निविदा/७३३१/२०१९, दिनांक ०४/०९/२०१९

ई-निविदा सूचना क्र. ३१, सन २०१९-२०

क्र.	कार्याचे नाव	रकम (₹. लाख)
०१.	पुरवठासाठी कोटेशन वॉन्स अंकीक देवदार कुंभारवाय रा.मा.क्र.१५८ कि.मी. ३/४०० ते ४३/५०० कि.मी. २३/२०० ते २४/५००, २०/४०० ते २८/१००, २८/३५० ते ३१/२००, ३६/१०० ते ३७/१००, ३४/१०० ते ३७/१००) यासाठी सुधारणा करणे, ता.कोटेशन, जि.सांगली	४५६.९५
०२.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील मिरज तालुक्यातील खोसी दुर्गाबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र.१२६ किमी ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	८२.००
०३.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील मिरज तालुक्यातील कान्हा कुमाराबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र.१२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/५०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	८२.००
०४.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील कान्हाकुमाराबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र. १२८ किमी ०/०० ते १६/५०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	७७०.९६
०५.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील मिरज तालुक्यातील तुंग कामधेन्याबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र.१२६ किमी ०/०० ते १२/१०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	७७४.४६
०६.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील मिरज तालुक्यातील सावळकुंडी सेरे कामधेन्याबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र. १२७ किमी ०/०० ते १४/४०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	७३.८०
०७.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील मिरज तालुक्यातील आटा दुर्गाबाई कुंभारवाय रा.मा.क्र. १५८ कि.मी. ४/०० ते २२/२६० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	१९.००
०८.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील कान्हाकुमाराबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	६३.३६
०९.	(३४) सांगली जिल्ह्यातील कान्हाकुमाराबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे. (३४) सांगली जिल्ह्यातील कान्हाकुमाराबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	६६.३७
१०.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील मिरज तालुक्यातील रा.मा.क्र.१२२ मिरज देवदार कुंभारवाय रा.मा.क्र.१२८ किमी. ०/०० ते ३३/०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	६५.६०
११.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील कान्हाकुमाराबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	६५.०२
१२.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील मिरज तालुक्यातील खंडाबाई कामधेन्याबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	६३.३४
१३.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील कान्हाकुमाराबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	६३.३४
१४.	(३४) रा.मा. १२८ मिरज देवदार कुंभारवाय रा.मा.क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे. (३४) रा.मा. १२८ मिरज देवदार कुंभारवाय रा.मा.क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	६५.६०
१५.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील कान्हाकुमाराबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	६५.६०
१६.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील कान्हाकुमाराबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	६५.६०
१७.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील कान्हाकुमाराबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	६५.६०
१८.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील कान्हाकुमाराबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	६५.६०
१९.	(३४) रा.मा. १२८ मिरज देवदार कुंभारवाय रा.मा.क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे. (३४) रा.मा. १२८ मिरज देवदार कुंभारवाय रा.मा.क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	६५.६०
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६२.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील कान्हाकुमाराबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	६५.६०
६३.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील कान्हाकुमाराबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	६५.६०
६४.	सांगली जिल्ह्यातील कान्हाकुमाराबाई कामधेन्याच्या माली हिरण्ण कान्हा रस्ता प्रजिमा क्र. १२८ किमी. ०/०० ते १६/३०० ची विधार्थिक देखावाल दुरुस्ती करणे.	६५.६०
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ई-निविदा उल्लेख क्रमांकपत्रा : दिनांक ०७/०९/२०१९ रोजी ११/०९/२०१९.

निविदापुर्त करून (ई-निविदा) : दिनांक ०७/०९/२०१९ रोजी १२:०० वाजता, मा. मुख्यालय, रा. मा. प्रादेशीय विभाग, पुणे वॉचे कार्यालय- **ई-निविदा घराणो** : दिनांक १८/०९/२०१९, वेळ १५:०० वाजता. साखळी संचालकपट्टी (३-अक्षरी) सव माहिती उल्लेख आहे- (1) <https://mahapwd.com> (2) <https://mahatenders.gov.in> (सदर निविदा सूचनेपेची काही बदल होत असल्यास सूचित वेळवेळीत कार्यालयत येईल)

(३) कार्यकारी अभियंता, रा. बा. विभाग, मिरज कार्यालयीत सूचना फलक.

(४) (डीडी-कार्यालय/२०१९-२०२०/२०१९)

(सही-) **कार्याकारी अभियंता,**

सार्वजनिक बांधकाम विभाग, मिरज

7 CHANDRAYAAN-2

WHAT INTERNATIONAL MEDIA SAID

THE NEW YORK TIMES
The New York Times lauded India's "engineering prowess and decades of space development". "While India may not have stuck the landing on its first try, its attempt highlighted how its engineering prowess and decades of space development have combined with its global ambitions," the report said. "The partial failure of the Chandrayaan-2 mission — an orbiter remains in operation — would delay the country's bid to join an elite club of nations that have landed in one piece on the moon's surface," it said.

WASHINGTON POST
The Washington Post in its headline "India's first attempt to land on the moon appears to have failed" said the mission had been a source of "immense national pride". "Social media erupted in support of the space agency and its scientists despite the setback..." it said. "One of the successes of India's space program has been its cost-effectiveness. Chandrayaan-2 cost \$141 million, a small fraction of what the United States spent on its historic Apollo moon mission," the report said.

BBC
The BBC wrote the mission had made global headlines because it was "so cheap". "The budget for Avengers: Endgame, for instance, was more than double at an estimated USD 356 million. But this isn't the first time ISRO has been hailed for its thrift. Its 2014 Mars mission cost USD 74 million, a tenth of the budget for the American Maven orbiter," it said.

AL JAZEERA
Under the headline 'India's space hopes dashed for now with loss of lunar lander', Al Jazeera's article read, "The moment India had waited years for...arrived as a time of silence and bitter disappointment". The article also noted the low-cost budget of the project, stating, "This achievement on the moon would have been even more astonishing because after a series of very expensive setbacks — including an aborted initial launch."

LE MONDE
French daily Le Monde mentioned the success rate of soft landing on the moon. It said, "so far, scientists point out, only 45 per cent of missions aimed at alleviating have been successful". It started its article with words "A broken dream" and said that the Indian newspapers "were quick to titrate their websites, after announcing the worse scenario that could expect the Indian Space Research Organisation".

THE GUARDIAN
"The mission, which comes amid a renewed global interest in moon exploration, was watched closely by scientists around," stated The Guardian's article. It further said that the mission was the "most complex and ambitious space project that India has embarked upon" so far.

With PTI inputs

There will be a new dawn, brighter tomorrow, says PM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 7

SEEKING TO rally the nation around the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said there would be a "new dawn and brighter tomorrow very soon".

In an address that was broadcast live hours after ISRO's plan to soft land Chandrayaan-2's Vikram module on the lunar surface did not go as per script, Modi told ISRO scientists that the nation was proud of them and stood with them.

"We came very close but we need to cover more ground in the times to come. Learning from today will make us stronger and better. The nation is proud of our space programme and scientists. The best is yet to come in our space programme. There are new frontiers to discover and new places to go. India is with you," he said.

"I can proudly say the effort was worth it and so was the journey. It will make us stronger and better. There will be a new dawn and brighter tomorrow very soon... I am with you, nation is with you."

Modi watched the proceedings at the mission operations complex in Bengaluru as the lander began its descent around 1.40 am on Saturday, and came back at 8 am to address the scientists.

"I could feel and sense your despondency and emotions last night. I was among you when communication was lost. There are several unanswered questions, but I am sure you will find the answers," he said. "You came as close as you could, look ahead."

After his address, Modi gave a long and tight hug to the visibly disappointed and emotional ISRO chief, K Sivan.

Modi also recalled ISRO's several successful missions, including the Mars Orbiter Mission, to assert that there is no failure in science, but only experiments and efforts. He called ISRO an "encyclopedia of suc-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacts with ISRO scientists after communication with the Vikram lander was lost, in Bengaluru. PTI

cesses" and said a few moments of disappointment could not push its flight "out of trajectory", and that nothing could stop India from realising its dreams in the 21st century.

Later in the day, the PM repeated his observations in Aurangabad in Maharashtra.

The unwavering dedication and determination displayed by ISRO scientists was an attribute that leads and makes the nation great, he said, adding that India's space scientists were more determined than ever to pursue their mission of landing a spacecraft on the Moon.

"All of us know about Chandrayaan. Our scientists had set a huge goal. They made every effort, and worked relentlessly for years. They gave their best. But some problem developed... Yesterday night and today morning, I was with our scientists at ISRO. They had become emotional. But they were also more determined. Ready to take up the challenge with renewed energy and determination, taking lessons from what happened," Modi said.

Modi was on a day's visit to Mumbai and Aurangabad where he inaugurated Metro and AURIC (Aurangabad Industrial City) projects respectively.



HOW INDUSTRIES, INSTITUTES CHIPPED IN

ACADEMIA CONTRIBUTION (MORE THAN 15 INSTITUTES)

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE: Highlighted need for four throttling 800 N thruster engines on Chandrayaan-2 lander Vikram for the soft landing on lunar surface. Contributed to lander's navigation strategy, simulations of lunar terrain and atmosphere

IIT-MADRAS: Carried out mobility analysis for rover Pragyan

IIT KANPUR: Designed, developed and validated two software algorithms for rover's motion on uneven terrain, and for computer vision-based autonomous navigation.



Many PSUs manufactured material for GSVL Mk III rocket; (top) a dish antenna tracks the moon at ISTRAC in Bengaluru.

INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTION:

LAUNCH VEHICLE: Over 500 industries

SPACECRAFT: Over 120 industries

CHANDRAYAAN-2 SPACECRAFT COST: Rs 603 cr (60% spent on industry)

GSVL MK-III ROCKET COST: Rs 375 cr (80% spent on industry)

HINDUSTAN AERONAUTICS LTD (PSU): Made structure (bus) of Chandrayaan-2 spacecraft and delivered to ISRO Satellite Centre in 2015. The bus was built to house the nearly 1.5-ton lander and rover. 'Spacecraft Structure' weighing over three tonnes is made out of a 'central composite cylinder, shear webs and deck panels'. Also involved in building structures for GSVL Mk III rocket. Has four-decade-long association with ISRO.

MISHRA DHATU NIGAM LIMITED (MIDHANI, HYDERABAD, PSU): Manufactured high-end steel and titanium alloys for the GSVL Mk III rocket.

NONFERROUS MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (NFMTC, HYDERABAD, PSU): Rare copper alloy, Russian copper, used as key material in cryogenic rocket engine of GSVL Mk III made here

GODREJ AEROSPACE: Manufactures first stage Vikas Engine and indigenous third stage Cryogenic Engine Thrust Chamber for GSVL Mk III rocket. Also makes engine injectors, thrusters for the spacecraft.

LARSEN & TOUBRO (POWAI, VADODARA, COIMBATORE): Provided

flight hardware, sub-systems and assemblies for the mission. Manufactured "head end, middle and nozzle end segments" of GSVL Mk III's S200 solid boosters, which powered the rocket at the time of the launch.

ANANTH TECHNOLOGIES LTD (HYDERABAD): Manufactured the star sensors on the spacecraft; has long association with ISRO

TIWAC PVT LTD (DHARWAD): Started by Seth Walchand Heerachand, founder of HAL in the 1960s; associated with ISRO for over four decades. Made pressure gauges for the GSVL Mk III rocket

CENTRAL TOOL ROOM AND TRAINING CENTRE (BHUBANESWAR, PSU): Made 22 types of valves for fuel injection for cryogenic engine of GSVL Mk III rocket and parts for the lander and rover

BHARAT HEAVY ELECTRICALS LTD: Made lithium ion batteries based on technology transferred to the firm by ISRO. The lithium ion batteries are used as power sources on the spacecraft and launch vehicle.

KERALA MINERALS AND METALS LTD (PSU): A titanium sponge plant at KMML produces rare titanium sponge needed for GSVL Mk III rocket

‘Your work is not in vain... no need to lose heart’: Leaders laud ISRO scientists

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

LEADERS ACROSS the political divide have lauded the efforts of ISRO scientists over the Chandrayaan-2 mission which faltered in the last leg.

Hailing the team of scientists and researchers at the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), interim Congress president Sonia Gandhi said the mission has laid the foundation for achieving greater feats and the entire country awaits in anticipation for traversing the next frontier of space. "We owe a great debt to ISRO and the brilliant men and women who staff it. Their hard work and dedication has earned India a place in the league of space-faring nations and have inspired generations to reach for the stars," she said.

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi tweeted, "Congratulations to the team at

#ISRO for their incredible work on the Chandrayaan 2 Moon Mission. Your passion & dedication is an inspiration to every Indian. Your work is not in vain. It has laid the foundation for many more path breaking & ambitious Indian space missions."

Trinamool Congress chief and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee tweeted, "We are proud of our scientists. The @isro team worked hard for #Chandrayaan2. A befitting tribute to our founding fathers who envisioned India's place in the league of scientifically advanced nations far ahead of their times. A testimony to the scientific temper they ingrained in us, and their unmatched caliber and dedication. My sincere gratitude and congratulations to@isro. We are all with you. May you continue to make us proud!"

Banerjee's Delhi counterpart Arvind Kejriwal urged scientists not to lose heart. "We are proud of our scientists. They have created history. No need to lose heart.

Our scientists have done a great job. Jai Hind!" he said.

DMK president M K Stalin tweeted, "Thank You Team @isro for inspiring a billion people to look towards outer space and place our faith in the power of science and technology. We are proud of our scientists for taking us farther than before #Chandrayaan2."

CPM general secretary Sitaram Yechury tweeted, "The history of our scientific milestones has shown us how the fight and struggle has been continuous. Bravo that ISRO and our scientists got us so far. We are confident that the next steps will be more satisfying."

Bihar Chief Minister and JD(U) president Nitish Kumar said in an official release, "We are quite confident that our scientists will keep their energy and enthusiasm and will move ahead to achieve our goal. Information gathered from Chandrayaan-2 mission will help future scientific endeavors."

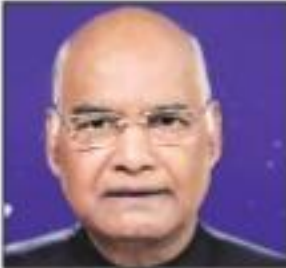
Just a coincidence, not misfortune: President

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

APPRECIATING ISRO'S achievements, the President on Saturday lauded the effort of the scientists and expressed hope that India will be successful in its next Moon mission.

"Hum honge kamayab, mann me hai vishwas, poor hai vishwas, hum honge kamyab ek din... We covered 3.84 lakh-km journey successfully, only 2.1 km were left. The distance left is negligible on such a huge scale. It's such a huge achievement. It was just a coincidence and not misfortune," President Ram Nath Kovind said.

Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu said the entire country is proud of ISRO's mission and extended his best wishes for the space agency's future endeavours. "There is nothing to despair. ISRO only lost communication with the Lander & not the hopes of 1.3 billion Indians," Naidu's secretariat tweeted.



President Ram Nath Kovind, Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu



The Vice-President also said the orbiter with its payloads is performing its mission. "I salute @isro scientists, engineers & everyone else associated with Chandrayaan-2 for their hard work & dedication in trying to conquer new frontiers in space exploration," he tweeted.

G Madhavan Nair, the former ISRO chairman during whose tenure Chandrayaan-1 was launched a decade ago, said the mission has achieved 95 per cent of its objectives despite the lander not touching down.

The men and women behind India's Mission Moon

From developing launch rockets to configuring and assembling spacecraft systems, they are among those who played a key role in the project

LAUNCH VEHICLE TEAM



S. SOMANATH, DIRECTOR, VIKRAM SARABHAI SPACE CENTRE
Somanath is one of the key rocket scientists behind development of ISRO's heaviest rocket,

GSVL Mk III, which launched Chandrayaan-2, and is being geared for launch of the first Indian human space mission, the Gaganyaan mission, around 2022. After Chandrayaan-2 mission experienced a hiccup on July 15 this year, when the launch was aborted due to a technical glitch, Somanath's team put the GSVL Mk III back on track in a week for launch on July 22.

Somanath has also been involved in development of throttle-able engines for ISRO's space programme, which allows it to develop new rockets. The throttle-able engine technology was present on Chandrayaan-2's Vikram lander — it was key to reducing the lander's velocity before landing on the Moon. Somanath was also the project director for a December 2014 GSVL Mk III development mission where a Crew Module Atmospheric Re-Entry



V. NARAYANAN, DIRECTOR, LIQUID PROPULSION SYSTEMS CENTRE
Shortly after GSVL Mk III rocket successfully put Chandrayaan-2 space-

craft in its desired orbit in space on July 22, ISRO's Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) put out a message congratulating its scientists for the successful launch. "L110 and C25 stages delivered by LPSC performed brilliantly during the launch," the message said, in a reference to the performance of the twin L110 or liquid fuel Vikas engines and the C25 cryogenic engine — both designed and developed by LPSC. The centre's director, Narayanan, is one of the foremost experts on cryogenic propulsion technologies — a technology denied to India in the past — and is a former project director for the C25 cryogenic project.

SPACECRAFT TEAM



M. VANITHA, PROJECT DIRECTOR, CHANDRAYAAN-2
She is the first woman to be a project director for an ISRO planetary mission. The communi-

cation systems engineer, who took over as the project director for Chandrayaan-2 around 20 months ago, has been a single-point authority for getting the whole system configured, reviewed, implemented, assembled and guided to the landing. A longstanding member of the digital systems group at ISRO's U R Rao Satellite Centre (formerly ISRO Satellite Centre), she served as associate director for Chandrayaan-2 mission before being appointed as the project director.

Vanitha won the best woman scientist award from the Astronautical Society of India in 2006 and was featured by international science journal Nature among its list of scientists to watch out for in 2019.



RITU KARIDHAL, MISSION DIRECTOR, CHANDRAYAAN-2
An aerospace engineer, Karidhal has been responsible for guiding Chandrayaan-2 space-

craft through its space journey. She held overall responsibility for



K. SIVAN, CHAIRMAN, ISRO

A month before the launch of Chandrayaan-2 mission, the phlegmatic rocket scientist from Tamil Nadu, did not mince words when he said that the final descent towards the surface of the Moon by the Vikram lander would be among the most terrifying moments in ISRO's history. Since taking over as chairman in 2018, Sivan, 62, has driven the Chandrayaan-2 mission to realisation despite multiple delays, including technical problems with the Vikram lander. The ISRO veteran has spent over 36 years in the organisation and served in the past as director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre and the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre — the primary centres for development of rocket technologies for the space agency.

His innovations to mission design in ISRO's workhorse and highly consistent PSLV rocket programme has been a bedrock for the development of bigger rockets such as GSVL Mk II and III. "He is the chief architect of 6D trajectory simulation software, SITARA, the backbone of real-time and non-real-time trajectory simulations of all ISRO launch vehicles. He was responsible for commissioning world-class simulation facility in ISRO for mission synthesis and analysis, which is used for mission design..." says Sivan's ISRO profile.

A PhD in aerospace from IIT Bombay, Sivan has a Masters in aerospace from IISc and is an aeronautics engineering graduate from IIT Madras.

insertion of the spacecraft into the lunar orbit, and for its final descent on Moon. She was an operations director, assisting mission director V Kesaava Raju for ISRO's Mars mission in 2013-14.

Karidhal has a Masters degree in aerospace engineering from IISc and comes from Lucknow.

P. KUNHIKRISHNAN, DIRECTOR, U R RAO SATELLITE CENTRE

The satellite centre played a central role in



Chandrayaan-1 project director M Annadurai headed the centre, the project was pushed to realisation under Kunhikrishnan. With a Russian collaboration to build the lander and

development of the components of Chandrayaan-2 spacecraft — the orbiter, the Vikram lander, and the Pragyaan rover. While early work on the spacecraft began when

rover falling through, it was left to the satellite centre to develop the lander and the rover from scratch.

An ISRO veteran, Kunhikrishnan is a former director of its PSLV rocket programme and was responsible for carrying out 13 successive, flawless PSLV missions between 2010 and 2015, including the Mars Orbiter Mission in 2013.



V. V. SRINIVASAN, DIRECTOR, ISRO TELEMETRY, TRACKING AND COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC)

Since the launch of Chandrayaan-2, health, performance and trajectory of the spacecraft was monitored and controlled from a Mission Operations Centre of ISTRAC in Bengaluru, on the basis of signals sent between Chandrayaan-2 and high-end receivers located at ISTRAC's Indian Deep Space Network ground station facility outside the city. ISTRAC was responsible for all communication with Chandrayaan-2's lander and rover once lowered to the Moon's surface.

Srinivasan has worked as a communications engineer for several years at ISRO's satellite centre. He also played a key role in development of a 32-metre Deep Space Network terminal for Chandrayaan-1 mission.

COMPILED BY JOHNSON T A

8 Govt & Politics

‘WON’T TALK ABOUT FEELERS BUT IT IS VIABLE’

RJD leader: Can accept Nitish as Grand Alliance leader if he quits NDA

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, SEPTEMBER 7

RJD NATIONAL vice-president Shivanand Tewary on Saturday said his party “would not have any problem” in accepting Bihar Chief Minister and JD(U) national president Nitish Kumar as leader of the Grand Alliance if the Bihar CM decided to join them again. Tewary said though there had been no such feelers, one could see the JD(U) chief being under tremendous pressure over the party’s differences with BJP over instant triple talaq and scrapping of special status to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370.

Tewary said though he would not talk about “feelers”, the reunion of RJD and JD(U) looked “viable”. “If Nitish would take any stand against communalism and if we do not support him, we will be finished,” said the senior RJD leader.

The senior RJD leader said though party leader Tejashwi Prasad Yadav was firmly in control of the party after a brief absence from politics after the Lok Sabha elections, he believed that the RJD must support Nitish if he decided to part ways with NDA again. “If Nitish takes a stand (of quitting NDA) and we do not support him, in that case we would be branded as BJP agent,” he said. Asked if the RJD could accept Nitish on the same terms as it did before 2015 Assembly polls, Tewary said, “Why not?”

It is the second time in the last

EXPLAINED Win-win proposal for JD(U), RJD

SHIVANAND TEWARY, a socialist leader and former Rajya Sabha MP, has been a senior leader to both Lalu Prasad and Nitish Kumar and has followed their politics very closely. He believes Lalu and Nitish should come together since their ideological position is the same. Nitish’s growing discomfort with the BJP leaves space for Nitish and Lalu to join hands again, especially if the BJP tries to corner JD(U) over seat-sharing arrangements before 2020 Assembly polls.

For the RJD, too, it will be a much-needed boost following its drubbing in the Lok Sabha elections.

two months that the senior RJD leader has made such remarks even though there are no direct feelers from the JD(U). “I have known Nitish Kumar and Lalu Prasad from their formative years. I worked with both of them and had parted ways with Lalu for Nitish in 1993 when Samata Party was formed... I firmly believe Nitish Kumar is a very image conscious leader. He is very conscious of his secular credentials,” said Tewary.

Asked about Bihar Leader of Opposition Tejashwi Prasad Yadav’s aversion to Nitish Kumar and his party already declaring him as the CM nominee for 2020 Assembly polls, Tewary said, “I do not speak anything without basis. There could be some people on either side who would not like the idea but there are many com-

mon grounds between RJD and JD(U) and the cadres if both parties might be in agreement. If Lalu Prasad and Nitish Kumar come together again, they would again be formidable forces. We are on same page with Nitish on his secular credentials and stand on instant triple talaq and Jammu and Kashmir.”

However, JD(U) national spokesperson KC Tyagi said, “We are very much comfortable with NDA. On certain issues when we differed, we have aired our differences. As a socialist unit, we have not deviated from our ideology and commitment towards zero tolerance against crime, corruption and communalism. RJD’s desperation stems from the fact that people have rejected caste and clan politics in last Lok Sabha elections.”



PM Narendra Modi with Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari, CM Devendra Fadnavis and Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray at the Metro inauguration in Mumbai. Pradip Das

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS UNVEILED IN MAHARASHTRA

Have to develop cities in sync with 21st century world: PM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 7

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Saturday inaugurated and laid the foundation of infrastructure projects worth thousands of crores in Mumbai.

“As we have set a target to become a \$5 trillion economy in the next five years, we will have to develop our cities in sync with the 21st-century world. For this, we will have to develop systems to ensure mobility, connectivity, productivity, safety and sustainability,” he said at an event held at Jio World Centre in the Bandra-Kurla Complex (BKC).

“Our intent is to spend Rs 100 lakh crore to develop infrastructure across the country. Along with Mumbai, we also want to develop other cities,” he added. At the event, the PM gave an

account of his government’s accomplishments in the first 100 days of its second term. Among them, he listed the triple talaq issue and the abrogation of Section 370 that revoked the special status of the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

Modi inaugurated Metro 2A and a mock coach for Metro 7, manufactured by Bharat Earth Movers limited (BEML), as a part of the government’s ‘Make in India’ initiative.

On his maiden visit to Mumbai after his re-election, the PM visited a 96-year-old Ganesh pandal at Lokmanya Seva Sangh at Vile Parle.

He also inaugurated the 10,000-acre Aurangabad Industrial City (AURIC), the country’s first greenfield industrial smart city and part of the upcoming Delhi-Mumbai industrial corridor. AURIC envisages global in-

vestments worth Rs 70,000 crore in the next 10 years and is likely to generate three lakh jobs.

The PM unveiled the state-of-the-art Auric Hall, a six-storey building that will be the monitoring and administrative nerve centre for the smart city and launched the Auric chatbot that will help anyone get their problems addressed by the city administration.

While addressing a meet of empowered women involved in self-help groups, the PM announced that under the Jal Jeevan Mission, the Centre will invest Rs 3.5 lakh crore to tackle the problem of drinking water in the next five years. The scheme aims to provide piped water to all rural households by 2024.

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis described AURIC as a “game changer” for Marathwada.

Selja takes charge of Haryana Cong, will not contest polls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 6

HARYANA CONGRESS’S newly appointed president Kumari Selja on Saturday sought to present a united face of the faction-ridden party, which she said, will fight the Assembly polls collectively by moving in “fast-forward mode”. Selja said she will not contest the state election.

“Elections are near. We need to enter jointly in the electoral field. Due to paucity of time our challenges have increased. We will collectively fight the assembly polls by moving in fast forward mode. I will, however, not contest the election,” Selja said after formally taking charge as the state party chief here.

Addressing the media, Selja admitted that she got the responsibility a “little late”, but “we accept the challenge”. She ruled out any alliance for the polls that are likely to be held in October.

Former state party president Ashok Tanwar and former Congress Legislative Party (CLP) leader Kiran Chaudhary did not attend the event.

Selja, however, said that “all are part of party and will work collectively in the coming days”.

Haryana Congress in-charge and party general secretary Ghulam Nabi Azad, who was present, too downplayed the absence of the two key party leaders. “They could not have come because of some reason,” Azad told reporters, adding “It (change in organisation) is a continuous process. Change is there always in organisation.”

Azad, however, praised both Tanwar and Chaudhary for their contributions in strengthening the party. “The party felt the responsibility should be given to those who have long experience in administration and organisation. But it does not mean that the former CLP leader or the former state unit president were weak leaders,” he added.

In a bid to end factionalism in Haryana, the Congress earlier this week named Selja as state party chief and appointed former chief minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda head of the election management committee. Congress president Sonia Gandhi also appointed Hooda as the CLP leader, and by virtue of that Leader of Opposition in the Assembly.

Hooda was present when Selja, a four-time Lok Sabha MP and currently member of Rajya Sabha, took charge.



Kumari Selja, Bhupinder Singh Hooda and Ghulam Nabi Azad at Congress headquarters in Chandigarh. Express

Ex-CM responding to treatment: Hospital

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, SEPTEMBER 7

FORMER BENGAL chief minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, who was admitted to a Kolkata hospital on Friday night, is recovering and responding to the treatment well, said doctors. Bhattacharjee is suffering from chronic obstructive pulmonary

disease, diabetes and multiple cardiac ailments.

“He (Bhattacharjee) was admitted yesterday at 8.40 pm with severe shortness of breath with low oxygen saturation and high carbon-dioxide levels in blood. The cause has been diagnosed as Acute Exacerbation of COPD with Bilateral Pneumonitis and Anaemia”, read a statement by Woodlands Multispeciality

Hospital. A seven-member medical team has been formed. “He is under close monitoring in the intensive care unit under an expert medical team,” said a senior official of Woodlands.

Several politicians, including CPM leaders Surjya Kanta Mishra, Rabin Deb and Md Salim as well as Congress leader Pradip Bhattacharya and BJP MP Locket Chatterjee visited Bhattacharjee.

No ambiguity on Sena-BJP alliance returning to power, says Uddhav

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 7

SIGNALLING THE Shiv Sena’s willingness to continue the alliance with BJP for the 288 seats in the upcoming Assembly elections, party chief Uddhav Thackeray on Saturday said there was no ambiguity that the saffron allies would return to power in the state post polls.

“There is no ambiguity that the Sena-BJP alliance returning to power post polls,” Thackeray, who shared the dais with

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis at the Bandra Kurla Complex rally, said.

PM Modi laid the foundation for three metro lines which will be built at an investment of Rs 19,000 crore, and a part of the 337-km metro rail network for Mumbai during the event.


Calling the BJP-Sena alliance “atal” (unbreakable), Thackeray said, “We are not hankering for power. But we believe the power should be for development of people and the state of Maharashtra.”

The Sena chief’s comments come amid reports that the BJP and Sena are hardening their positions on sharing of seats. As per reports, the Sena wants the BJP to adhere to the 50:50 formula,

however, poll managers of the BJP are arguing for more seats to accommodate leaders from Opposition parties and its “growing political might”. Of the total 288 seats, the BJP and the Sena have agreed to allocate 18 seats to smaller allies, but a formal deal is yet to be worked out.

Speaking at the programme, Thackeray lavished praise on Modi for nullifying Article 370, and gave a call for construction of Ram temple in Ayodhya and introduction of Uniform Civil Code.

“We express our gratitude to Modi for taking the decision to scrap special status of J&K. Now, we are confident Modi ji will build Ram temple in Ayodhya and introduce Uniform Civil Code,” Thackeray said.


**EAST DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**
Office of the Executive Engineer (Pr)-II
Shahdara South Zone, School Block, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
NIT No. : EDMC/EE (Pr)-II/Sh.(S)/TC/2019-20/03 Dated : 05.09.2019
Last Date of Download of Tender Document : 19.09.2019 at 3.00 PM
Last Date of Bid Preparation and Hash Submission : 19.09.2019 at 3.30 PM
Last Date of Close for Bid : 19.09.2019 at 3.30 PM to 6.00 PM
Last Date of Re-encryption of Online Bid : 20.09.2019 at 3.00 PM
Opening of Financial Bid : 20.09.2019 at 3.10 PM
The Executive Engineer (Pr)-II Shahdara South on behalf of Commissioner, EDMC invites online percentage rate tender for the work in the tender documents :

S. No.	Name of Work	Tender Amount (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Cost of Tender (Rs.)	Tender No.
1.	Improvement of road from 36-Block DDA Market to H.No. E-41/10 in Trilokpuri in W.No. 03-E (211) in AC-55 Shah. (S) Zone.	1,36,44,178/-	2,72,900/-	1,500/-	316201
2.	Improvement of road L.H.S. DDA Open Land to Sr. Secondary School Delhi Govt. in New Ashok Nagar in W.No. 04-E (212) in AC-55 Shah. (S) Zone.	1,29,61,138/-	2,59,200/-	1,500/-	316202
3.	Improvement of road from H.No. 25/231 to 19/30 and H.No. 9/175 to 5/31 in Trilokpuri in W.No. 02-E (210) in AC-55 Shah. (S) Zone.	1,42,71,218/-	2,85,400/-	1,500/-	316203
4.	Improvement of road from H.No. 31/4 to H.No. 31/481 and H.No. 32/280 to H.No. 32/232 and H.No. 32/483 to H.No. 32/28 in Trilokpuri in W.No. 03-E (211) in AC-55 Shah. (S) Zone.	1,21,19,248/-	2,42,400/-	1,500/-	316204
5.	Improvement development of main road from Lovely Public School to H.No. 1, Gyan Kunj, Laxmi Nagar in Ward No. 14E/AC-58 Laxmi Nagar by pdg 0 from in SSZ. 1,78,79,319/-	3,57,600/-	1,500/-	1,500/-	316205
6.	Imp. Dev. of main market road Shakarpur from new Patparganj Road to Gali No. 5, H-Block by pdg. RCC drain and RMC in W.No. 15-E/AC-58 Shah. (S) Zone.	1,81,32,026/-	3,62,650/-	1,500/-	316206
7.	Imp. Dev. of road and drain in Samaspur Village by pdg. RMC in W.No. 16-E/AC-58 Shah. (S) Zone in Pandav Nagar.	69,97,160/-	1,39,950/-	1,000/-	316207
8.	Remodeling and covering of drainage system by pdg. RCC item from Bank of Baroda to Church in main road Patparganj Market Mayur Vihar Ph-I in AC-57 Shah (S) Zone.	1,39,98,326/-	2,79,950/-	1,500/-	316208
9.	Improvement Development of road from Vikas Marg near H.No. D-68 to H.No. 90 Shakarpur Khnas by pdg. RCC box drain RMC in Ward No. 15-E/AC-58, SSZ.	4,01,76,891/-	8,03,550/-	2,000/-	316209
10.	Strengthening of road by pdg. Dense carpeting from Khudi Ram Bose Marg to Transformer (near Delhi Police Apartment) and Hindustan Apartment to Fine Home Apartment, Mayur Vihar Ph-I in W.No. 12-E/AC-57 Shah. (S) Zone.	1,15,05,666/-	2,30,100/-	1,500/-	316210

Head of Account : XL-VIII-S-IV (MSPY) for Sl. No. 1 to 7, XL-VIII-X (TYADB) for Sl. No. 8 to 10; Time of Completion : 03 Months each, for Sl. No. 1 to 4 & 7, 04 Months each, for Sl. No. 5, 6, 8 & 10, 06 Months for Sl. No. 9; Rates hold good for : 06 Months each, for all the above works. The demand draft for tenders cost & earnest money will be deposited in the office of SE(Pr-II)-Shah. South, 3rd Floor, Zonal Office Building, Karkardooma, Delhi-110092. Detailed NIT can be seen from the following website <http://engineering.mcdetenders.com>, (WAP & SMS enabled tenders portal) or from the office of the undersigned. R.O. No. 46/DPI/East/2019-20 Executive Engineer (Pr)-II Shahdara South Zone

EDMC's Citizens Helpline No. : 155303

**EAST DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**
(ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT)
Office of the Executive Engineer-M-III
Shahdara South, School Block, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
No. EDMC/E.E.-(M)-III/Shah.(S)/TC/2019-20/15 Dated : 05.09.2019
For online tendering at percentage rate tenders are invited for the execution of the following works by the EDMC from approved and eligible contractor and will be received as per time table :

1. Last Date of Download of Tender :	19.09.2019 at 12.00 Hours
2. Last Date of Bid Preparation :	19.09.2019 at 14.00 Hours
3. Last Date for Close of Bid :	19.09.2019 at 14.00 to 16.00 Hours
4. Date of Re-encryption of online :	19.09.2019 at 16.00 Hours to 20.09.2019 at 14.00 Hours
5. Opening of Financial Bid :	20.09.2019 at 14.05 Hours

S. No.	Name of Work	Tender Amount (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Tender No.
1.	Improvement Development of Boundary wall of Mayur Vihar Ph-I Pkt. V from ITI College to Shashi Garden Mayur Vihar Ph-I by pdg. B/W from in ward no. 01E/209 AC-55 Shah. (S) in Mayur Vihar Ph. I.	1,56,73,633/-	3,13,450/-	316173
2.	P/F of MS Grills and wicket gates at various Tot-Lats in Mayur Vihar Ph-I Pkt. I by pdg. B/W from in ward no. 01E/209 AC-55 Sh (S) in Mayur Vihar Ph. I.	1,66,19,360/-	3,32,400/-	316174
3.	Improvement Development of road and drains of Pocket-6 Mix Housing Flats in Ward No. 007-E (215), Shah.(S) Zone.	2,14,91,224/-	4,29,800/-	316175
4.	Imp/Dev of road from BI-2 Khichripur Delhi Govt. Dispensary to BI-10 Khichripur Mangal Bazar Road (PWD) by pdg. RMC in W. No. 08E/213 AC-56 Sh(S) Zone.	80,68,692/-	1,61,350/-	316176
5.	Improvement Development of road from Block-15, Kalyanpur, Kotla main road to Block-17 Kalyanpur JJ Cluster, Block-11 Main road Kotla to Block-14 JJ Cluster and along Block-16 and 11 Kalyanpur opposite EDMC Priy. School by pdg. RMC in Ward No. 008-E (213) AC-56 Shah. (S) Zone.	1,58,03,581/-	3,16,050/-	316177

Head of Account : XL-VIII-X (TYADB) for Sl. No. 1 to 4, XL-VIII-S-(iii) (SC/ST) for Sl. No. 5; Time of Compl. : 04 Months each, for Sl. No. 1 to 3, 03 Months each for Sl. No. 4 & 5; Cost of Tender : Rs. 1,500/- each for Sl. No. 1, 2 and 5, Rs. 2,000/- for Sl. No. 3, Rs. 1,000/- for Sl. No. 4. The demand draft for tenders cost & earnest money will be deposited in the office of S.E.-II-Shahdara (South), 3rd Floor, Zonal Office Building, Karkardooma, Delhi-110092. Rates are valid up to six months. Detailed NIT can be seen from the following website or from the office of the undersigned. <http://engineering.mcdetenders.com>, (WAP & SMS enabled tenders portal). R.O. No. 45/DPI/East/2019-20 Executive Engineer-M-III Shahdara (South) Zone

EDMC's Citizens Helpline No. : 155303

‘Moving ahead towards a transparent life’

LALMANI VERMA
DEHRADUN, SEPTEMBER 7

UNION MINISTER of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar on Saturday said that his ministry’s job is conservation of panchtatva (Earth, Water, Agni or fire, Vayu or Air, and Akash or sky), and that the Centre will work with the slogan of plantation and growing of trees and sustainable use of produce. Speaking as chief guest at the convocation ceremony of Forest Research Institute in Dehradun,



Prakash Javadekar at the convocation. Virender Singh Negi

Javadekar said, “What had not happened in 1,000 years has happened in the past 100 years. Progress of science and changes in life. And what had not hap-

pened in the past 100 years has happened in the past 10 years and this is continuing.” He continued, “I am saying this is an exciting time because transparency in the system is coming during Modi ji’s stint as Prime Minister. We are moving ahead in the direction of a transparent life. Because of this, the image of the forest department that was not very good is also changing.”

The minister said that foresters have been given smartphones with an application that records whether each of them has walked at least 10 km every

day. “New accountability is being set,” he said.

India has 24 per cent tree cover and 15,000 sq km tree cover has increased in the past five years, he said, adding that 77 per cent of the world’s tigers are in India, the country has 30,000 elephants and 2,000 rhinoceros.

Speaking about the Centre’s policies, Javadekar stressed that rules and regulations need to be framed so that people encourage tree planting. He said that by ensuring adequate food and water in the forests, the problem of man-animal conflict can be tackled.

Tribunal must be increased from one year, and their transfers must be handled by the High Court to ensure due process.”

Besides Justices Lokur and Shah, the tribunal jury comprises Prof Faizan Mustafa (vice-chancellor of NALSAR University of Law), Syeda Hamid (former member of Planning Commission), Deb Mukherjee (former ambassador to Bangladesh), Gita Hariharan (founder-member of Indian Writers’ Forum) and Prof Monirul Hussain (Chair Professor at the Centre for North East Studies and Policy Research at Jamia Millia Islamia). The jury will present its findings and announce a decision on Sunday.

People’s Tribunal starts hearing on NRC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

A SEVEN-MEMBER jury, including former Supreme Court judge Madan B Lokur and former Chief Justice of Delhi High Court Justice A P Shah, began a two-day public hearing on the Assam citizenship issue on Saturday.

The People’s Tribunal, a public hearing on “Constitutional processes and human cost”, is being organised by civil society groups. The jury will hear individual testimonies of people from Assam participating in the process of updating the National Registry of Citizenship (NRC) and

legal experts.

The hearing is aimed at educating the public “on what is being called the largest citizenship purges in history,” advocate Prashant Bhushan said.

Terming citizenship “the right to have rights”, advocate Gautam Bhatia told the jury about what he called the lack of transparency in the Supreme Court’s supervision of the process. He also criticised the time-lines set by the top court to publish the updated NRC. “When people’s citizenship is in question the criterion must be fairness, not fitness,” Bhatia said.

Testifying before the tribunal, Masuma Begum, a 25-year-old

social activist from Assam, said she was left out of the NRC even as her parents and siblings featured in the list. “If people like me, who have access to information and legal resources, have been left out unfairly, what about the poor and uneducated in the state,” she asked.

Discussing the legal processes involved in updating the NRC, lawyers and people from Assam criticised the working of the Foreigners’ Tribunals in the state. “There is a pattern of religious and linguistic bias in the functioning of the tribunals,” activist Teesta Setalvad said.

Justice Shah said, “The term for members of the Foreigners’

EXPRESS NETWORK



NORTH

Pakistani troops resort to unprovoked firing in Poonch

Jammu: Pakistani troops resorted to unprovoked mortar shelling and small arms fire along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir's Krishna Ghati area of Poonch district on Saturday. Giving details, defence ministry spokesperson Lt Colonel Devender Anand said that

Pakistan initiated the cease-fire violation around 7.45 am. The Indian Army retaliated befittingly. Meanwhile, sources said that firing from across the LoC stopped after sometime. However, there was no loss of life or damage to property on the Indian side. **PTI**



A waterlogged street after heavy rain, in Mumbai on Saturday. IMD has predicted heavy to very heavy rainfall for the next two days in the city and adjoining areas. PTI

EAST

Police lathicharge crowd after spat over traffic fine

Bhubaneswar: The Odisha Police on Saturday resorted to lathi-charge to disperse an angry crowd that had detained patrol vehicles in Bhubaneswar and asked police to produce documents complying with new rules of the Motor Vehicles Act. Police personnel were seen chasing

residents in Rajmahal Square after an argument broke out on whether police had driving licences, and pollution and registration certificates for their vehicles. "They are busy levying fines, but they do not have documents themselves. Rules are for everyone," said one angry resident. **ENS**

WEST

Leopard found dead in Gir division

Vadodara: A carcass of a female leopard has been recovered from Itwaya village, under Jasadhar range of the Gir East division in Gujarat's Saurashtra, a senior forest officer said on Saturday. The deceased feline is estimated to be 10 years old, according to Chief Conservator of Forests of Saurashtra, D T

Vasavada. He said the canine teeth and claws of the big cat were found intact. "Prima facie, a fight with a lion pride staying in that area could be the reason behind the death of the leopard," said Vasavada. He said the carcass has been sent to Jasadhar for post-mortem. **PTI**

SOUTH

Nearly 300 Andhra villages on verge of flood

Amaravati: Hundreds of villages in East and West Godavari districts of Andhra Pradesh were again on the verge of floods as river Godavari remained in spate on Saturday. Heavy rains in Maharashtra, the main catchment area of Godavari, have increased the water

flow in the river with the level inching closer to the danger mark at the Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage in Dowaleswaram. In all, 283 villages in the two Godavari districts face the threat of inundation if 10 lakh cusecs water is discharged. **PTI**

BIDDING ADIEU



Deepak Joshi

Devotees carry Ganesh idols for immersion, in Thane district.

■ Ten people drowned in two separate incidents during immersion of Ganesh idols in Aravalli and Kheda districts of Gujarat, police said.

■ While six persons drowned in the Vatrak river at Khadol village in Aravalli, four others died in the Mohar river in Kheda district of Gujarat.

■ In Mumbai, PM Narendra Modi offered prayers to Ganesh and urged people to avoid water pollution during immersion of Ganesh idols by ensuring that waste is not dumped in the sea.

■ A 31-year-old undertrial from Akola district jail in Maharashtra prepared an idol of Ganesh using soap, officials said.

M J AKBAR DEFAMATION CASE

Predator more powerful than his prey, Ramani tells court

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

JOURNALIST PRIYA Ramani on Saturday told a Delhi court that her tweet against former Union minister M J Akbar was meant to highlight "the fact that we normalise sexual misconduct", and "we do not take it seriously" unless such action results in physical assault.

Ramani made the submission while recording her statement in the criminal defamation complaint filed by Akbar against her. Appearing before Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Samar Vishal's court, Ramani said, "I used the word predator (in tweet) in the context of my personal experience with Akbar and shared experiences of many other women. I also used the word to emphasise and highlight the difference in age, influence and power between Akbar and myself."

Talking about Akbar, who was her editor at *The Asian Age* newspaper when the alleged misconduct took place, Ramani said: "I was a young journalist. He was a

famous editor, 20 years older than me, who called me to his bedroom in a hotel for a job interview. A predator is more powerful than his prey."

In 2018, Ramani had levelled allegations of sexual misconduct and harassment against Akbar, who subsequently resigned as the Union Minister of State for External Affairs and filed the defamation case.

On Saturday, Ramani made the deposition under oath during her examination-in-chief. The court adjourned the matter for Monday, when her examination-in-chief is expected to conclude and her cross-examination by Akbar's counsel is expected to commence.

Ramani was talking about her tweet dated October 8, 2018, in which she wrote, "I began this piece (her article in *Vogue* magazine) with my MJ Akbar story. Never named him because he didn't 'do' anything. Lots of women have worse stories about this predator — maybe they will share."

Ramani was asked by her counsel, senior advocate Rebecca John, whether she wrote the tweet. She replied in the affirma-

tive and said, "Almost exactly a year after my *Vogue* article, the MeToo movement began gaining momentum in India on Twitter...many women... began naming people who sexually harassed them at workplace."

Ramani told the court that after seeing all these women she was compelled to speak up about her alleged experience with Akbar in 1993. "So I removed anonymity that I had given Akbar in *Vogue* article one year ago and named him as the editor who had sexually harassed me. I tweeted linking my *Vogue* article. I tweeted that I began this piece with my MJ Akbar story. I have explained that only the first four paragraphs of the *Vogue* article were about the 1993 incident. I said I never named him because he did 'not' do anything."

She submitted: "I used the inverted commas to denote sarcasm. Sexual harassment can take many forms... By saying he did not 'do' anything, I was honestly disclosing that there was no overt physical attack. But that did not excuse Mr Akbar's sexually coloured behavior..."

Court spells out steps to record Unnao rape victim's testimony

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

A DELHI court hearing the Unnao rape and accident case on Saturday issued instructions to hold in-camera proceedings at the AIIMS trauma centre to record testimony of the victim. District and Sessions Judge Dharmesh Sharma directed that recording of testimony of the victim will begin on September 11 and continue on a day-to-day basis until it is completed.

This comes after the Delhi High Court granted the trial court permission to hold trial proceedings inside Jai Prakash Narayan Apex Trauma Centre of AIIMS.

Expelled BJP MLA from UP Kuldeep Singh Sengar is accused

in the rape case and has also been booked for murder in the accident case, in which the victim and her lawyer sustained serious injuries while her two aunts died.

In his order, Judge Sharma said the CBI counsel, Ashok Bhartendu, and counsel for the complainant should reach AIIMS by 10 am for the proceedings. The court also directed that CCTV cameras installed inside the seminar hall or court will remain switched off, while they should be functional outside the temporary courtroom.

"The victim/survivor shall be brought on a stretcher/trolley and shall be stationed at the right side of the dais in the seminar hall so that she faces the court and not the learned counsel for the parties," the order read.

The court also directed that only one associate for the complainant, and not more than two associates for both accused persons — MLA Sengar and co-accused Shashi Singh — should be present to assist the main counsel in conducting the victim's cross-examination, and they need not be present in robes.

"It is directed that MS Trauma Centre, AIIMS, and doctors attending upon her shall appear every morning on the day of deposition of the victim/survivor in the seminar hall at 10 am and make a statement certifying [her] medical condition," the court said.

It asked Tihar jail authorities to make special arrangements and ensure that both accused reach the venue. The CBI has been directed to ensure security arrangements.

On CJ's decision to quit, jurists' opinion divided, lawyers plan protest

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, SEPTEMBER 7

A DAY after the resignation of Madras High Court Chief Justice V K Tahilramani, opinion was divided among jurists in Tamil Nadu over the Supreme Court collegium's decision to transfer her to a much smaller Meghalaya High Court, even as Madras HC lawyers prepare to abstain work on September 10 to protest what they called an "arbitrary" decision of the collegium.

Tahilramani, who was a judge in Mumbai HC, became Madras HC Chief Justice in August 2018.

After Justice Tahilramani ostensibly disclosed her decision to resign to her colleagues at a dinner on Friday, and it was confirmed that she had sent her resignation to President Ram Nath Kovind, senior lawyer of Madras High Court R Vaigai on Saturday said that the collegium's decision was "arbitrary, to say the least."

The SC, she pointed out, had set some relevant factors for such transfers: "If the judge is mired in controversies, or their relatives (are) practising in the same court, or if there is a litigation against the judge, or for better administration of justice."

Among these, she said, the first three can be "ruled out easily" in Chief Justice Tahilramani's case. "If the fourth factor (better administration of justice) is the reason for her transfer, she was already working as the acting Chief Justice of Mumbai HC between 2017 and 2018. She was found suitable to head Madras HC by a collegium in which the current CJ was a member. When there was no controversy against her, what new factor has emerged to disturb her position now," Vaigai asked.

But retired judge of Madras High Court, K Chandru, said, "When the Madras HC has the dubious distinction of having over 6 lakh cases pending and the decision of transfer was taken by a collegium comprising senior-most judges in the country, it has



Madras High Court Chief Justice V K Tahilramani

to be accepted."

Two other senior jurists of Madras HC, who spoke to *The Sunday Express* on the issue on the condition of anonymity, had different opinions on collegium's decision. While one of them agreed with the collegium's decision and cited several reasons to justify Justice Tahilramani's transfer, his colleague said it is easy to attribute motives and criticise the collegium's decision since the alleged reasons about her performance as CJ for the transfer was applicable to others too, who got elevated to SC instead of facing a transfer.

Vaigai said that Justice S Manikumar of Madras HC, who is now recommended to become CJ of Kerala HC by the collegium, was junior to Justice Tahilramani. "Justice Tahilramani was not considered to head any bigger high courts, but only a smaller HC in Meghalaya with just two judges. Justice Mittal, who is to replace Justice Tahilramani in Madras HC, was considered unfit by Justice Gogoi-led collegium in January 2018 to become the CJ of Himachal Pradesh HC. His junior was later posted as Himachal CJ. Justice Mittal, with very little experience and who became a High Court Chief Justice only this year, is now being posted in Madras HC now. How can you say Justice Tahilramani's transfer to Meghalaya was for 'better administration of justice'?", she asked.

Meanwhile, a group of lawyers in Madras HC have decided to organise a protest on

Monday against the collegium's decision.

This will come after Punjab lawyers had expressed discontent and demanded a fair deal for Justice Mittal by giving a "better HC" than Meghalaya, and Telangana lawyers protested two days ago against the transfer of Justice PV Sanjay Kumar, the senior-most judge of the court, to Punjab and Haryana HC as a junior judge.

Criticising the protests, retired Justice Chandru said such transfers have taken place in the past as well. He took the examples of Justice Kannan Krishnanmoorthy, who was transferred to Punjab and Haryana HC and served his full term, apparently over opposition to the appointment of one more Brahmin judge in Madras HC by certain political parties when K Balakrishnan was the CJ.

Chief Justice of Manipur HC, R Sudhakar, was transferred recently from the position of CJ of a much bigger Jammu & Kashmir HC but there was no protest, Justice Chandru pointed out.

He also noted that senior judges of Madras HC have mostly been appointed only in High Courts of Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Odisha, but never get appointed as CJs of Bombay or Madhya Pradesh or Kolkata HCs.

"No one explains vagaries behind this decision-making process," he said. "Also, when judges from smaller HCs like Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh were appointed as CJ of Madras HC, it was often (seen as) a quantum jump for them, as they come from a three-member HC to a 75 member High Court. When Justice Tahilramani's transfer was made by the collegium consisting of senior-most judges, when there was no malafide attributed, when there is no involvement of government in the process, one cannot presume that Justice Tahilramani's transfer was a victimisation," he said.

Cong says facts should emerge, CPM calls it deeply disturbing

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

WITH CHIEF Justice of the Madras High Court Vijaya K Tahilramani resigning three days after the Supreme Court Collegium declined to reconsider its decision to transfer her to the Meghalaya High Court, the Congress on Saturday said that "specific facts" regarding the matter "should emerge" as "doubts are created by this lack of transparency".

The CPI(M) described the developments as "deeply disturbing and shocking". "To be transferred as the Chief Justice from a court with 75 judges to one in Meghalaya which has only two

"The collegium's reasoning regarding her Meghalaya transfer is unavailable. Doubts are created by this lack of transparency. To clear the air, specific facts should emerge, otherwise speculations will make things worse," Rajya Sabha MP Abhishek Singhvi said.

judges cannot be considered a routine transfer and is a virtual demotion," senior CPM leader Brinda Karat said. "As it is there

are such few women judges at this level and the treatment meted out to her is insulting and humiliating not just to her but to women in general. She has had an impeccable record and is the seniormost High Court judge in the country."

Asked for his views, Congress leader and Rajya Sabha MP Abhishek Singhvi said, "It is always sad to see a judicial appointee at age 43 prematurely resigning with more than a year to go."

"The collegium's reasoning regarding her Meghalaya transfer is unavailable. Doubts are created by this lack of transparency. To clear the air, specific facts should emerge, otherwise speculations will make things worse," he said.

In Odisha, programme helps rural women turn entrepreneurs

SAMPAD PATNAIK
BOLAGARH, SEPTEMBER 7

TRACKING CHANGE >> EVERY SUNDAY

For all Change stories, log on to www.indianexpress.com/change
Witness Change? Write to us at change@expressindia.com

"WE NO longer have to beg or steal from the men to pay tuition fee for our children," says Samsa Begum, 34, as the women around her nod in agreement.

The women, part of a Self Help Group (SHG) from Arakhapalli village in Khordha district, are elated that they have made Rs 1.7 lakh in profit this year after selling the harvest from a pisciculture project set up last year under the Odisha government's Mission Shakti.

Now overseeing six lakh SHGs with 69 lakh women, Mission Shakti, which the Naveen Patnaik-led BJD government began in 2001, ensures government departments help SHGs with sustainable income practices and lifestyle changes. This is an im-

provement over the usual thrift-and-credit mechanism of SHGs, where women lend to each other or leverage bank loans.

In Arakhapalli village, women SHGs have been encouraged to take up pisciculture, with Mission Shakti and the state Fishery Department leasing ponds to women for Rs 2,000 per acre per year, against market rates of about Rs 50,000.

The government also provides around 60 per cent of the project cost as subsidy. In the case of the Arakhapalli SHG, that works out

to Rs 90,000 in subsidies to purchase fingerlings, food and medicines for the fish. The subsidy, the women members say, helped them make a windfall profit in the first year of the project.

"Money in the hands of rural women or semi-poor, urban women has a far greater impact on communities than money in the hands of men," says Commissioner-cum-Director, Mission Shakti, Sujata Karthikeyan. "Industrialisation does boost the state economy, but the micro economy has to be boosted with the help of women."

Explaining the need for subsidies and low rents (on ponds), Karthikeyan adds, "The aim is also that SHGs graduate to micro enterprises. The government has to handhold up to a level, but after that, the SHGs will be able to fully compete in the free market".

To increase the lure of eco-



In Ghorodia village, SHG members read electricity meters and use their smartphones to generate bills and collect fees

nomic ventures for Odisha's women, Mission Shakti is incubating those that combine food security with an income source. "Women-led pisciculture is also a food-security project because

their children and the larger community get to eat some of the fish cultivated, fresh and without any additional expense," says Shri Pati, a consultant with Mission Shakti.

Several SHGs under Mission Shakti also run Take Home Ration (THR) units, where they produce, pack and sell 'chhatua', a nutritious food made by mixing roasted wheat, Bengal gram, nuts

and sugar in a mandated proportion. While the income from THRs are modest, women working there say they are happy to be doing the work because chhatua mixed with milk is an inexpensive and effective deterrent against child malnutrition.

"We feed the children of a cluster of villages as well as our own," says Sudiptaa Sahu, who works with a THR unit in Bolagarh. "Money comes second."

Mission Shakti is in the process of setting up a Management Information System (MIS) that will give details of how many of its six lakh SHGs are engaged in a particular economic activity.

In its 2019 election manifesto, the BJD had promised to provide business worth Rs 5,000 to women SHGs, with a profit of about Rs 500 crore.

A few kilometers away, in Ghorodia village, another SHG

registered under Mission Shakti reads electricity meters in the locality. Women, many of whom haven't studied beyond high school, use smart phones to generate bills, collect fees and submit the collection to electricity distributor FEDCO (Feedback Energy Distribution Company).

"We (women) make better collection agents because people cannot turn us away when we ask them to settle electricity dues. Even when the man of the house is away, we as women can step into the customer's kitchen and catch hold of his wife," laughs Sushama Sahoo, 50, member of Maa Mangala SHG.

For every Rs 100 collected in dues, each woman receives Rs 6 as collection or agent fee. She also earns Rs 3 per meter reading. While earnings vary, every group member earns on an average Rs 2,000 a month.

Villagers attack policemen in Bihar

Muzaffarpur: A mob attacked a police team following the recovery of bodies of two persons, who had been kidnapped on Friday, from a rivulet in Bihar's Muzaffarpur district on Saturday, police sources said. The police fired in the air after they were attacked in

Madhuban Desi village under Aurai police station area, SSP Manoj Kumar said. Three policemen were injured and were admitted to Aurai primary health centre, sources said. Additional police force has been sent to the village to control the situation. **PTI**

Andhra govt starts pilot project to deliver 'quality' PDS rice at doorstep

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, SEPTEMBER 7

ANDHRA PRADESH Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy on Saturday launched a pilot project to deliver quality PDS rice at the doorstep of beneficiaries in an effort to do away with adulteration at ration shops and eliminate middlemen, according to the government.

As part of the scheme, 'village volunteers' recruited by the state government — at a monthly salary of Rs 5,000 — will be tasked with identifying eligible beneficiaries in each village and personally deliver sealed bags of rice weighing 5, 10 and 15 kg every month.

Beneficiaries would continue to purchase the rest of commodities from ration shops under the Public Distribution System. The pilot project was launched at Palasa, in Srikakulam district, and

will be rolled out gradually all over the state, according to the government.

Under the PDS scheme, the government is providing 'Swarna' quality rice, which costs Rs 23 per kg in open market, at Rs 1 per kg to eligible beneficiaries, State Civil Supplies Minister Kodali Venkateswara Rao said.

"Rice distributed by the previous government had a lot of adulteration and was not of good quality — about 10-15 varieties of rice was mixed and distributed through PDS. People complained to (Chief Minister) Jagan Mohan Reddy that the rice distributed was often inedible. So we decided to provide only one variety of quality rice," the minister said.

By the end of April 2020, the state government aims to provide rice at the doorstep of nearly 1.50 crore beneficiaries across the state through this scheme.

Uttar Pradesh: 2 cops booked for 'harassing' Kyrgystan woman

Women alleged she was sexually harassed for 5 months

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 7

A 45-YEAR-OLD woman from Kyrgystan, who has been residing in Uttar Pradesh for the past two decades after marrying a man from the state, has alleged that two police constables had sexually harassed her for the past five months.

Police said the woman alleged that she came in contact with police constable Dharmendra Giri, when she was on her way to Lucknow to complete her visa formalities around five months ago. Dharmendra later introduced her to another police constable, Ashish Pawar, added police.

An FIR was registered against Dharmendra and Ashish on rape and criminal intimidation charges, said a sen-

ior police officer. No arrests have been made yet.

Dharmendra Giri is attached to the Government Railway Police, Agra while Ashish is posted at UP Police's intelligence bureau office in Agra. The case details were sent to the senior officers concerned, said police.

A police officer said that the woman claimed that she married to a man hailing from Uttar Pradesh, who she had met in Kyrgystan around two decades ago.

"She has been staying in India since marriage but is yet to get Indian nationality. She claims that around five months ago, constable Dharmendra told her he would help in completing her visa formalities," said the officer.

"She claims after her work was completed, Dharmendra

told her to wait at a hotel. In the FIR, the woman said Dharmendra raped her in a room at the hotel and also made a video clip of the crime on his cellphone," said Singh.

"She claims that since then, Dharmendra sexually assaulted her several times, threatening her that he would upload the video clip online. Dharmendra later introduced her to his friend, constable Ashish Pawar. She told us that Ashish also sexually assaulted her after making similar threats."

A senior police officer said the medical examination of the victim could not be done because she refused to undergo one.

"Her statement will be recorded before a magistrate," said the officer. A search was on for the two constables, he added.

Booked for wife's murder, UP IAS officer writes to SSP on 'blackmail', seeks counter-FIR

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 7

TWO DAYS after an FIR was lodged against IAS officer Umesh Pratap Singh, director of Uttar Pradesh's State Urban Development Agency, for allegedly killing his wife, Singh on Saturday wrote to Lucknow Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), accusing the cousin of his late wife, who has accused him of murder, of blackmail and urged the police to lodge an FIR in the matter.

The cousin, Rajiv Kumar Singh, had lodged a complaint at the city's Chinhat police station, alleging that Singh murdered his wife Anita Singh, 42, because she was opposed to his alleged affairs with other women.

He has been booked under IPC Sections 302 (murder) and 201 (causing disappearance of evidence of offence, or giving false information to screen offender). Singh has denied the allegations.

In his letter, the IAS officer stated, "The complaint lodged against me is fake and has been lodged by Rajiv Singh with the intention of blackmailing me. Hence, I request you to lodge an FIR against Rajiv Singh under relevant sections of IPC and action should be taken against him."

Alleging that Rajiv is a "land mafia" and has business interests, Singh also wrote, "During my important postings, Rajiv had put pressure by sending his men to ask me to do legal and illegal works for him. I didn't succumb to the pressure and refused each time. Hence, he has lodged a fake complaint against me..."

Singh told The Sunday Express, "No FIR has been lodged against Rajiv on my complaint till now. He used his influence in the police department to get an FIR lodged against me. I request the police to book him for blackmailing me."

Gomti Nagar Circle Officer Awaneeswar Chandra Shrivastav said the complaint has been lodged with the SSP and once it comes to him he will investigate the issues raised by Umesh Singh. Shrivastav said that during investigation Singh's father-in-law has told the police that he is being framed.

Rajiv maintained that Singh's letter is a ploy to divert the probe. "Till yesterday, he was saying he doesn't know me. Today, he is saying I used to ask him for favours. He should make public my phonecalls (to him), or even a single SMS from me," he told *The Sunday Express*. "I have never asked him for anything. If I did, why did he not lodge a complaint against me at the time?"

Threatened at gunpoint, harassed, says singer

Kolkata: A singer was allegedly threatened at gunpoint and sexually harassed in Kolkata. A complaint has been filed at a police station, said police. The woman claimed that the accused is associated with the TMC.

The incident reportedly took place on Thursday when the woman had gone to perform at a Ganesh Chaturthi function organised by a local club.

"I was tortured in the green room. All my staff were forced to leave the room and the accused had asked his associates to lock the gate from outside. He sexually harassed me at gunpoint. Somehow I managed to flee," she said.

"We have received a complaint. However, no arrest has yet been made," said a police officer.

However, the TMC has refused to comment on the matter. **ENS**



BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD
Office of the Engineer in Chief, 2nd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan
K.G.Road, Bengaluru - 560 009

RFP NO: BWSSB/EIC/ACE(QA)/TAQA/452/2019-20 Date:06.09.2019

Tender for the assignment of Empanelling of third party inspection agencies for inspection of various works and materials
(Only through e-Procurement Portal)

BWSSB hereby invites to submit technical and financial proposals required for the above assignment.

The purpose of the assignment is to empanel agencies towards III party inspection of various materials and works carried out as per applicable contract terms and conditions (above 100.00 Lakhs)

The last date and time for receipt of tenders is **25.09.2019 upto 15:00 hrs.** The technical bids will be opened on **27.09.2019 at 15:00 hrs.** Further details can be obtained from the office of undersigned or by logging on to <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in>

Sd/-
Engineer-in-Chief

कार्यालय प्राचार्य,
आचार्य पंथ श्री गृन्थ मुनिनाम साहेब शासकीय स्नातकोत्तर महाविद्यालय, कवर्धा
जिल्हा- कबीरधाम (छ.ग.)
(अग्रणी महाविद्यालय)

पत्र क्र. 685/रसा/2019 कवर्धा, दिनांक- 30.08.2019

खुला निविदा सूचना

आचार्य श्री गृन्थ मुनि नाम साहेब शासकीय स्नातकोत्तर महाविद्यालय, कवर्धा में सत्र 2019-20 में रसा मद से विभिन्न संकायों के लिए लेब उपकरण एवं अन्य सामग्री (अनुमानित राशि 2391380.00 अक्षरी- तेईस लाख इन्थ्यानवे हजार तीन सौ अस्सी रुपये मात्र) का क्रय किया जाना है। अतः इस हेतु निविदा महाविद्यालय के शर्तों के अधीन 30 सितम्बर, 2019 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। निर्धारित तिथि परचात प्राप्त निविदा पर विचार नहीं किया जाएगा। निविदाएँ दिनांक 30.09.2019 को अपराह्न 4.00 बजे खोली जावेगी। निविदा से संबंधित सम्पन्न जानकारी जैसे निविदा की शर्तें, उपकरण सामग्री सूची, आदि महाविद्यालय के वेबसाइट www.pgcollegekawardha.edu.in से डाउनलोड कर सकते हैं। निविदा भरने के पूर्व शर्तों का भली-भाँति अवलोकन कर लें।

हस्ता/-
(**डॉ. एस.एस. महापात्र**)
प्र. प्राचार्य
आचार्य पंथ श्री गृन्थ मुनिनाम साहेब शासकीय स्नातकोत्तर महाविद्यालय, कवर्धा

73093



BIHAR SCHOOL EXAMINATION BOARD

SHORT NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
(Through e-procurement mode only over <https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in>)

Tender Notice No.- PR 376/2019

Bihar School Examination Board, Patna invites e-tenders under two bid systems from the reputed Agency/ Sound Firms/Companies for the "Change of First Two pages of various Old Answer Books for Examination 2020 (Annual) as per decision of BSEB".

Scope of Work : Change of First Two pages of various old Answer Books for Examination 2020 (Annual) as per decision of BSEB.

Cost of Tender document (In Rupees)	Tender processing Fee (Non Refundable) (inclusive of GST @18.00%) to be paid through e-payment mode (i.e. NEFT/RTGS/ Credit Card/Debit card) (in Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)
500.00 (Five Hundred Rupees only)	1,180 (One Thousand one Hundred Eighty Rupees only)	20,000 (Twenty Thousand Rupees only)

Tender Schedule/ Programme

Date and Time for Activity	Date/Time: Duration
Online Sale/Download date of Tender documents	From 09.09.2019 (11:00 Hrs.) to 25.09.2019 (13:00 Hrs.) (https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)
Pre-Bid meeting	13.09.2019 at 12:15 Hrs. (Bihar School Examination Board, Sinha Library Road, Patna-800017)
Last Date/Time for submission/ uploading of offer/Bid	25.09.2019 up to 13:00 Hrs. (https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)
Submission of form fee & EMD in Hard copy/Original	25.09.2019 up to 13:30 Hrs. (Bihar School Examination Board, Sinha Library Road, Patna-800017)
Date & Time for opening of Technical Bid	25.09.2019 at 14:00 Hrs. (https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in) (Bihar School Examination Board, Sinha Library Road, Patna-800017)
Financial Bid Opening Date and Time	Date to be announced later by competent authority

❖ Detailed descriptions of the items and instructions for submitting your offer can be downloaded from e-tender website <https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in>.

❖ For support related to e-tendering process, Bidders may contact at "e- Procurement HELP DESK First Floor, M/22, Bank of India Building, Road No-25, Sri Krishna Nagar, Patna- 800001, Ph. No: 0612-2523006, Mob- 7542028164" or may visit the link "**Vendor Info**" at <https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in>.

❖ Corrigendum /Addendum, if any, will be published on e-Procurement Portal. <https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in> in itself.

❖ **Contact Details:** Sh. Jai Krishna Singh, Nodal officer - +916299923095, E-Mail ID - eproc.bseb@gmail.com

❖ **Note:** - Bihar School Examination Board reserves the right to accept/ reject/reschedule any or all tenders without assigning any reasons.

Secretary

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
DRINKING WATER & SANITATION DIVISION, MADHUPUR

अति अल्प कालीन पुनर्निविदा सूचना संख्या :-18/MDP/DWSD/2019-20 दिनांक: 06.09.2019

Sl. No.	Particulars	Estimated Cost (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Cost of BOQ (In Rs.)	Time of Completion
1	Construction of Solar Energy based Mini water supply Scheme, Kalhajor (Pahari Tola) under CM Jansamvad with 4.5 m high galvanized tubular Steel structure staging for mounting HDPE water storage tank having Capacity 5000 Liters	444377.00	9000.00	750.00	02 Month

नोट:- निविदा की शर्तें एवं परिमाण विपन्न बिगानीय वेबसाइट <http://dwsd.jharkhand.gov.in> पर Upload रहेगा। इच्छुक एजेंसी/ संवेदक परिमाण विपन्न वेबसाइट से Download कर निविदा में भाग ले सकते हैं परन्तु निविदा जमा करते समय विपन्न का निर्धारित मूल्य का बैंक ड्राफ्ट तकनीकी बीड के साथ अनुलक्षित करेंगे, जो संबंधित कार्यपालक अभियंता को मुरातेय होगा। निविदा की शर्तें कार्यालय के सूचना पट पर भी देखा जा सकता है। है। निविदा में कार्य की प्राक्कलित राशि में घट-बढ़ हो सकती है तदनुरूप परिमाण विपन्न की राशि भी घट-बढ़ कर सकती है।

Executive Engineer
Drinking water & Sanitation Division
Madhupur.

PR 216504 (Deoghar) 19-20#D **बूंद - बूंद नहीं बरतेगे तो बूंद को तरसेगे**

ऊर्जा विभागा
झारखण्ड सरकार
विद्युत कार्यपालक अभियन्ता
विद्युत कार्य प्रमण्डल, इंजीनियरिंग हॉस्टल नं०-२ दुर्वा, राँची

अति अल्पकालीन ई-प्रोक्चोरमेंट सूचना

ई-निविदा प्रसंग सं०- Energy/EWD/Ranchi/35/2019-20 दिनांक- 06 / 09 / 2019

1.	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रुपये में)	परिमाण विपन्न का मूल्य	अग्रघन की राशि	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
I	राजमयन राँची में 380 केलीमीटर ध्वनि रहित जलिन एण्ड एमएफएड पैनल, सेड सहित एवं डेक्रेटिव लाइट, पंखा, ग्रिडलैस लाइट के अधिष्ठापन का कार्य।	1,11,36,235.00	10,000.00	2,25,000.00	आठ सप्ताह
2.	वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि	14.09.2019			
3.	निविदा जमा करने की तिथि	15.09.2019 के 10.30 बजे से 22.09.2019 के 2.00 बजे तक			
4.	निविदा खोलने की तिथि	23.09.2019 को 3.00 बजे अपराह्न में			
5.	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता	विद्युत कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, विद्युत कार्य प्रमण्डल, राँची।			
6.	निविदा खोलने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता	मुख्य विद्युत अभियन्ता-सह-मुख्य विद्युत निरीक्षक, ऊर्जा विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची।			
7.	ई प्रोक्चोरमेंट प्रकोट का फोन नं०	0651-2400712, 0651-2490069			

नोट :- निविदा से संबंधित विस्तृत जानकारी हेतु वेबसाइट <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> में देखा जा सकता है।
P.R.216410 Energy(19-20):D विद्युत कार्यपालक अभियन्ता
जिसे अवगत ना समझे, वो कहानी हूँ मैं, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी हूँ मैं।



UJVN LIMITED
(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprises)
H. O. "UJJAWAL" MAHARANI BAGH, GMS ROAD, DEHRADUN CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866
website: www.uttarakhandjvidyut.com, (Tele.: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508)

TENDER NOTICE

Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil), MB-1, Maneri (Uttarkashi) invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tenders is given below:

Tender No.	11/ EE(Civil) / MB-1 / Maneri / 2019-20	12/ EE(Civil) / MB-1 / Maneri / 2019-20
Name of work	Annual O&M of multicore water pipeline & Cooling water pipeline of Tiloth Power House, Uttarkashi.	Special repair and maintenance of Saraswati Sisu Mandir and Construction of two additional rooms for Himalayan Torch bearers academy at Maneri Dam Colony, Maneri, Uttarkashi.
Estimated Cost	₹ 9,93,339.00 (including GST)	₹ 23,27,834.00 (Excluding GST)
Earnest money deposit	₹ 25,000.00	₹ 58,000.00
Tender Fee	₹ 590.00 (Including GST)	₹ 1,180.00 (Including GST)
Date of availability of bid document on website	09-09-2019 from 10:00 Hrs	09-09-2019 from 10:00 Hrs
Last date of submission of Tender	01-10-2019 up to 14:00 Hrs	01-10-2019 up to 14:00 Hrs
Date of opening of Tender	05-10-2019 at 11:00 Hrs	05-10-2019 at 14:00 Hrs

For fuller & further detail kindly visit our website. The tender document can be downloaded from Nigam's website "www.ujvn.com".
पत्रांक सं० 512 / दिनांक 07.09.2019 **E.E (Civil), MB-1, Maneri**

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
PHUSRO NAGAR PARISHAD

Request for Proposal/E-Procurement Notice
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO.UDD/PNP/04/2019-20 Date:06.09.2019

No.	Description of Package	Estimated Capital & O&M Cost (Rs. in lac)	Earnest Money(Rs. in lac)	Tender Fee (Rs.)	Completion Period
1	Door to Door Collection, Transfer, Transportation, Developing and operating an integrated Municipal Solid Waste Processing Facility and Engineered Sanitary Landfill Facility in municipal area as per SWM Rules 2016, for Phusro town in Jharkhand, on a long - term Design, Build, Operate and Transfer (DBOT) basis for Municipal Solid Waste with 20 years O&M	1029.32 & 13201.82	10.30	25,000/-	16 Month Construction & 20 Yrs. O&M
2	Issue of RFP	10.09.2019			
3	Last date for receiving queries	20.09.2019			
4	Pre bid meeting	26.09.2019			
5	Proposal due date	03.10.2019 By 5:00 PM			
6	Opening of technical bid	04.10.2019 By 5:30 PM			
7	Official Inviting Tender	Executive Officer, Phusro Nagar Parishad			
8	Mobile Number	7644004023			
9	E-mail	npphusro1@gmail.com			
10	Helpline Number of E-Procurement Cell	0651-2491232 / 7903925693			

Only e-tenders are acceptable. Further details can be seen on website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>
बूंद - बूंद नहीं बरतेगे तो बूंद को तरसेगे

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
PHUSRO NAGAR PARISHAD

P.R.216400 Urban Development and Housing(19-20):D

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU



FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

TENDER NOTICE NO.03/DB/F.114 N/2019 Dated: 06.09.2019
LS FORM (RATE TENDER SYSTEM) (TWO COVER SYSTEM)

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu sealed tenders are invited by the Chief Engineer, Fisheries Department, Integrated office Complex, Animal Husbandry & Fisheries Department, Nandanam, Chennai - 35, for the following works from the registered Civil contractors of Govt. Departments.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Value in lakhs	EMD Amount (Rs.)
1.	Construction of Mini Fishing Harbour at Nambiyar Nagar in Nagapattinam District.	3200.00	16,10,000/-
2.	Providing the Artificial Reefs in 30 locations all along the inshore waters of Chennai, Thiruvallur and Kancheepuram Districts.	920.00	4,70,000/-


Period for Availability of Tender Schedule : upto 5.45 pm on 10.10.2019
Last date of receipt of tender : 11.10.2019 upto 03.00 pm

The other details, terms and conditions may be obtained from the Office of the Chief Engineer, Fisheries Department, Chennai - 600 035 and the tender documents may also be downloaded at free of cost, through internet at the website "www.tenders.tn.gov.in".

Chief Engineer
Fisheries Department, Chennai - 35.

DIPR/3082/Tender/2019

GOVT. OF ODISHA



OFFICE OF THE
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER

RURAL WORKS, CIRCLE, BHAWANIPATNA
Bid Identification No.:- BPT/Online-07/2019-20 Date: 05.09.2019
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FOR ROAD WORKS IN ODISHA NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement

1. Name of the Work : Construction & Maintenance of Khalna to Tileimal (Package No. OD-24-MMSY-5) Road under MMSY in the District of Nuapada (Balance Work)

2. No of Works : 1 No.

3. Location details : Nuapada District

4. Estimated Cost : As per NIT.

5. Period of Completion : As per NIT.

6. Cost of tender paper : Rs. 10,000/- per set.

7. Other details :

Availability of tender for bidding	Last date & time for seeking tender clarification	Date and time of opening of technical bid
From 16.09.2019 11.00 A.M.	To 09.10.2019 5.00 P.M.	08.10.2019 10.10.2019 at 11.00 A.M.

Further details can be seen from the web site "www.tendersorissa.gov.in"

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
Rural Works, Circle, Bhawanipatna

25102/11/0007/920

SC judge: Criticising executive, judiciary, bureaucracy cannot be called sedition

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, SEPTEMBER 7

AS CITIZENS, Indians have the right to criticise the government, and criticism cannot be construed as sedition, Justice Deepak Gupta of Supreme Court said on Saturday, adding that stifling such criticism will make us a police state.

Clarifying at the onset of his speech — on “Sedition and freedom of expression” — that views expressed are his own as an individual, and not as a Supreme Court judge, Justice Gupta said, “Criticism of the executive, the judiciary, the bureaucracy, the armed forces cannot be termed sedition. If we stifle criticism of these institutions, we shall become a police state instead of a democracy.”

He said, “For me, there is a very important right which is not spelt out in the Constitution... the right of freedom of opinion, the right of freedom of conscience, by themselves, include

the most important right — the right to dissent. Every society has its own rules, and over a period of time, when people stick to only age-old rules and conventions, the society degenerates; it doesn't develop.”

He continued, “New thinkers are born when they disagree with well-accepted norms of the society. If everybody follows the well-trodden path, no new paths will be created and no new vistas of the mind will be found. If a person doesn't ask questions and raise issues questioning age-old systems, no new systems will develop and horizons of the mind will not expand.... New thoughts and religious practices have developed only when they have questioned the old.”

Therefore, the judge said, “don't ever give up on inquisitiveness. Always question — ‘why this belief? Why not something new?’ Only then, the society will develop.”

Justice Gupta was in Ahmedabad to address a workshop of lawyers on the topic of



Justice Deepak Gupta in Ahmedabad on Saturday. Express

“Law of sedition in India and the Freedom of Expression”, organised by the Praleen Public Charitable Trust and Justice P D Desai Memorial Lecture Committee at Gujarat Law Society on Saturday.

He said that in a secular country such as India, a non-believer, an atheist, an agnostic, ritualistic

or a spiritualist person all have the right to expression. “When you talk of dissent, who can forget Justice H R Khanna in the habeas corpus case. That dissent is more important than any decision that may have come before or after it. Today, it is the rule of law.”

In the case he referred to, a five-member bench was adjudicating on the matter of those detained during the Emergency in 1975, and Justice Khanna was the lone dissenter, while the four other judges in the bench allowed unrestricted powers of detention during the Emergency

Emphasising the importance of freedom to criticise all institutions, Justice Gupta said, “We have the right to criticise the government in power, whichever government it may be. The misuse of the sedition law is against the very principle that our freedom fighters fought for.”

Maintaining that those in power have to “develop thick skins”, he said, “They can't be oversensitive to people who make fun of them. Humour is a very vital part of our life. Parliament has become a battle of loudest of voice and not battle of wits.... We all have to be open to criticism. The judiciary is not above criticism and I welcome introspection within the judiciary. If we look within ourselves. That is the only way we can improve.”

Normalcy evading Valley due to ‘civil curfew’ of radical youths: J&K BJP leader

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 7

EVEN THOUGH the Jammu and Kashmir administration has tried to ease many restrictions initiated on August 5, after special status for the state under Article 370 was scrapped, life does not seem to be returning to normal in Kashmir due to “civil curfew” enforced by “a section of radicalised youths backed by terrorists,” J&K BJP spokesperson Brigadier Anil Gupta (Retd) stated on Saturday.

The statement came after National Security Adviser Ajit Doval told a group of journalists in Delhi that ₹100 crore at least 92.5 per cent of the geographical area of Jammu and Kashmir is free of restrictions.”

Radicalisation is the root cause of alienation, which needs to be addressed first to restore

normalcy, Gupta said. He held the National Conference and the Congress responsible for creating the present impasse and said facts speak to the contrary despite claims by both parties to be secular and worst victims of militancy.

Gupta maintained that radicalisation picked up momentum in Kashmir after re-emergence of Sheikh Abdullah on the political horizon with “full backing” of the Congress. It gained impetus after 1977, ostensibly with the backing of Pakistan when Zia ul Haq was busy giving shape to the implementation of “bleed India through a thousand cuts” doctrine, he added.

Sheikh's successor and son Farooq Abdullah, the BJP leader asserted, first hobnobbed with radical Islamic parties through an alliance to contest the 1983 elections against the Congress, and later joined hands with the

Congress and allegedly turned a blind eye to destruction of Sufi culture and growth of radicalism.

The “bungling” of the 1987 polls by the NC-Congress alliance led to large-scale exodus of Kashmiri youths for arms training and Farooq Abdullah was again found wanting, Gupta said. When militancy erupted in 1989-90, Farooq deserted Kashmiris and left them to face terrorists' bullets, he said. “When Kashmir was burning, Farooq was golfing in London,” he main tained.

According to Gupta, while the Army was able to control and neutralise Pakistan's proxy war, when Omar Abdullah came to power in 2008, Pakistan successfully managed to change militancy in the Valley into an “intifada-type” of movement of agitations, uprising and stone-pelting.

NC MPs move HC seeking meeting with Abdullahs, court seeks J&K reply

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 7

THE J&K High Court has directed the Senior Additional Advocate General to seek instructions from state authorities and inform the court after National Conference MPs Hasnain Masoodi and Mohammad Akbar Lone filed a petition seeking a meeting with party president Farooq Abdullah and his son and former chief minister Omar Abdullah.

The single bench of Justice Sanjeev Kumar observed that before proceeding further in the matter, “it is necessary to first ascertain as to whether the petitioners have actually been prevented by the authorities from meeting their party president Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah, and if it is true, for what reasons”. Justice Kumar asked Senior Additional Advocate General Javid Iqbal to seek instructions from the state authorities and listed the matter for September 11.

Masoodi, a former judge, represents Anantnag constituency while Lone is the Baramulla MP.

In their petitions, Masoodi and Lone have said that they have not been allowed to meet the Abdullahs despite making requests to the authorities for the same. Referring to a similar petition by CPI(M) leader Sitaram Yechury in Supreme Court, the petitioners have prayed that they be allowed to meet the leaders as the “Supreme Court has already allowed Sitaram Yechury to meet CPI(M) leader Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami”.

‘BEING TARGETED FOR REPORTING FACTS’

2 journalists booked for fake news on Dalit family: UP cops

AMIT SHARMA
MEERUT, SEPTEMBER 7

BIJNOR POLICE on Saturday said that an FIR has been registered against two journalists — one working with a local daily and another with a local electronic media outlet — for “fake news reports claiming that a Dalit family in Titarwala Basi village under Mandawar police station area was not allowed to collect water from a village hand pump by an influential family of their community in the same village”.

In a video circulated on social media, Vishal, one of the journalists who were booked, claimed, “We received a call from one Premchand Valmiki of Basi village on September 4. He claimed that some influential persons of the village had threatened him and his family not to use a hand pump near their residence. Thus, they (the family) put up posters saying ‘house for sale’. We went to the village to collect facts and published a report in this regard.”

The other journalist who was booked on Saturday was identified as Rashid, police said.

Alleging that the two journalists were being “made targets” by the police for “factual

reporting”, several local mediapersons took out a protest march in Bijnor on Saturday. “A journalist association here has formed an eight-member committee to take their fight to a logical end,” said Iftikhar Ahmed, a local journalist.

“The FIR against us has exposed the malafide intentions of the local police and is a big blow to the freedom of press. We are not frightened but in the manner in which the voice of the media is being muzzled is a dangerous sign,” Vishal claimed in the video.

“We want the FIR to be scrapped and action must be taken against local police, who are biased against the press,” Vishal can be heard alleging in the video.

Satendra Kumar, in-charge of Mandawar police station told *The Sunday Express* on phone, “An FIR was registered against two local journalists for fake reporting in connection with a Dalit family in Basi village. The fact is that a team of Mandawar police went to the village when Premchand Valmiki registered a complaint with us. The police team called both the factions and they agreed (in presence of the police) that they will not fight over the issue of drinking

water any further. I am on a raid in connection with a case and cannot give more details.”

Shiv Kumar, Mandawar village pradhan, said the issue has been settled due to the intervention of the police. “There was an issue regarding the Premchand family collecting water from a hand pump near their residence. There is a community hand pump outside Premchand's residence but it developed snags, prompting him and his family to gather water from another hand pump in the village. But the issue has been settled due to the timely intervention of the Mandawar police.”

Bijnor SP Sanveej Tyagi told *The Sunday Express*, “The Mandawar police registered an FIR against two journalists who have run fake news regarding purported non-availability of water to a Dalit family, who then allegedly put up posters on an ‘exodus’ from the village and also claiming that the house was on sale. We ordered an inquiry and found that nothing of the sort has happened. There is no question of the voice of the media being muzzled. Our campaign is against reporting of fake news.”

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, LU DHIANA, JALANDHAR, SEPTEMBER 7

THE VALMIKI community enforced a day-long bandh on Saturday against the telecast of a TV serial that they say distorted “historical facts”, hours after they announced to withdraw the call for the stir after the Punjab government suspended telecast of the serial *Ram Siya Ke Luv-Kush*.

The bandh threw life out of gear in parts of the state as markets remained shut and several incidents of violence were reported, including a shopkeeper allegedly shooting at a protester.

The Valmiki Action Committee claims the serial, airing on Colors TV, contained derogatory remarks against the ‘Bhagwan Valmiki’, thereby hurting religious sentiments. The organisation has demanded the serial's telecast be banned countrywide and its director and cast arrested.

Warning against attempts to disturb peace and communal harmony, Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh late Saturday ordered immediate ban on the telecast of the serial. He also asked the DGP to ensure strict vigil and crack down on disruptive elements.

Earlier in the day, commercial establishments were closed in Jalandhar, Amritsar, Hoshiarpur, Kapurthala, Phagwara and Ferozepur.

In Jalandhar's Nakodar, a shopkeeper opened fire after protesters tried to enforce the

EXPLAINED

Group often gets wider support

THIS IS not the first time the Valmiki community is up in arms against a perceived slight. At 38 per cent, Punjab has the highest concentration of Dalits in India, which explains the alacrity with which the Punjab government imposed a ban on the TV show. Although Valmikis form a small proportion of the community, their protests often garner support of other Dalits, including the majority Ravidasiyas, which makes them a formidable force that successive governments have been loath to upset.

bandh. A bullet hit Gurpreet Singh (22). He was rushed to hospital, said SSP Jalandhar (Rural) Navjot Singh Mahal said, adding that two shopkeepers have been arrested.

In Fazilka, there was a clash between Valmiki protesters and shopkeepers in Nauhria Bazar.

Journalist arrested in Azamgarh for ‘extortion’ from school teachers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 7

AZAMGARH POLICE has arrested a 30-year-old journalist of a Hindi newspaper for allegedly trying to extort money from government teachers of a primary school in Urdhpur locality and preventing them from discharging their duty. Police said that school authorities had accused the journalist, Santosh Kumar Jaiswal, of threatening and blackmailing them.

Jaiswal, a stringer with *Jansandesh Times*, was produced in court which sent him to judicial custody on Friday.

Circle Officer of Phoolpur Ravi Shankar said the principal

of the school, Radhey Shyam Yadav, visited Phoolpur police station and alleged that Jaiswal used to visit the school and misbehave with teachers and students. “He misused photographs of students and teachers,” the principal alleged.

“The principal claimed around 7.55 am on Friday, Jaiswal reached the school and asked the students to hold broom and clicked their photograph. When the school authorities objected to it, a heated argument took place,” said Shankar.

An FIR was lodged against Jaiswal under various sections of the IPC.

The editor of *Jansandesh Times* (Varanasi edition), Vijay Vineet, said, “Jaiswal is working as a stringer in the newspaper. I have spoken about the matter with senior government officials and they promised to look into the matter.” He added that action against Jaiswal was taken on the basis of his reports he had filed against a police officer posted in Azamgarh. “Jaiswal also tweeted about it” said Vineet.

“The arrest of Jaiswal was based on the evidence collected against him. It is wrong to say that the arrest was because of his reports in the newspaper and tweets,” said Shankar.


**ARMY INSTITUTE OF NURSING, GUWAHATI**
REQUIRES REGISTRAR AND HEAD OF ADMINISTRATION

Army Institute of Nursing, Guwahati, established in 2006 under the aegis of Army Welfare Education Society (AWES), New Delhi (affiliated to Srimanta Sankaradeva University of Health Sciences), invites applications for the post of Registrar and Head of Administration on contractual basis.

For eligibility and other details, please visit Institute Website www.ainguwahati.org.

Interested candidates may apply to the **Chairman, Army Institute of Nursing, Guwahati, c/o HQ 51 Sub Area, PIN-908651, c/o 99 APO.** Last date for submission of application is **22 Sep 19 (till 1200 hours).**

Telephone No : 0361-2307101 & 63806 07969 (AIN Guwahati).
E-mail ID : ainguwahati@yahoo.co.in



STATE BANK OF INDIA, Stressed Assets Management Branch-II, 11th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan,
1 - Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi -110001, E mail id : sbi.50950@sbi.co.in, Ph. : 011-23701208, 011-23701209

Publication of Notice regarding possession u/s 13(4) of SARFAESI Act 2002

Notice is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, a demand notice was issued on the dates mentioned against each account and stated hereinafter calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notice.

The Borrower/Guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of power conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Act on the dates mentioned against each account.

The Borrower/Guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **STATE BANK OF INDIA** for an amount and interest thereon.

The borrower's/guarantor's/mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Sr. No.	Name of the Account/ Borrower & address	Description of the property mortgaged/charged	Date of Demand Notice	Amount Outstanding
			Date of Possession	
1	M/s Sharda Maa Enterprises (P) Ltd. (1) 14 D, Atma Ram House, 1, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi – 110001 and (2) Sh. Narendra Jindal, D-329, Vivek Vihar, Delhi-110095 (3) Smt Bela Agarwal w/o Sh.Narendar Jindal, D-329, Vivek Vihar, Delhi - 110095 (4) Sh. Sandeep Agarwal s/o Sh. Gulzar Lal Agarwal D-142, Vivek Vihar, Delhi-110095 (5) Giltz Traders Pvt Ltd, D- 329, Vivek Vihar, Delhi - 110095	<div>1 Commercial property admeasuring 198.00 sq feets situated at Shop No. 352, 1st Floor at Agarwal Chamber-III, Shakarpur, Delhi- 110092 in the name of the Company.</div> <div>2 Commercial property admeasuring 198.00 sq feets situated at Shop No. 353, 1st Floor at Agarwal Chamber-III, Shakarpur, Delhi- 110092 in the name of the Company.</div> <div>3 Residential property ad measuring 247.66 sq mtr. at First Floor up to the extent of ceiling level bearing no. B-6, Swasthya Vihar, New Delhi in the name of Giltz Traders Private Limited, Corporate Guarantor.</div> <div>4 Residential property ad measuring 383.00 sq mtrs at D-328, 1IInd Floor Vivek Vihar, Phase-I, Delhi- 110095 in the name of Mr. Narendra Jindal, Guarantor.</div> <div>5 Residential property ad measuring 315.22 sq mtrs. at D-329, 1IInd Floor, Vivek Vihar, Phase-I, Delhi-110095 in the name of Mrs. Bela Aggarwal, Guarantor.</div> <div>6 Plot No. D-142, Vivek Vihar Phase-1, Delhi-110095, area of 125 Sq. yards. In the name of Mr. Sandeep aggarwal, Guarantor.</div>	<div>22-05-2019</div> <div>03-09-2019</div>	<div>Rs. 50,88,27,450.74</div> <div>and accrued interest as on 31-03-2019, costs, etc. thereon</div>

Date : 03-09-2019, Place : New Delhi

Authorised Officer, State Bank of India

NOTICE
For “A” Class Shareholders (Ordinary Members)

Notice is hereby given to all the “A” Class Shareholders registered till 31st March 2019 (Ordinary Members) of **Lokmanya Multipurpose Co-operative Society Ltd., Belgaum**, that the 25th Annual General Body Meeting of the Society (for the financial year 2018-19) will be held on Monday 23rd September 2019 at 11.30. a.m at Lokmanya Rang Mandir, Konwal Galli Belgaum -590001. All “A” Class Shareholders (admitted as members of the society as on 31/03/2019) are requested to attend the same.

For Lokmanya Multipurpose Co-operative Society Ltd.
Date:05.09.2019
Place: Belgaum
Sd/-
Kiran D. Thakur
(Chairman)

**“PEOPLE FIRST MISSION ALWAYS”**
AIR FORCE DAY CELEBRATIONS 2019
INVITATION TO RETIRED AIR FORCE OFFICERS 06 OCTOBER 2019

Chief of the Air Staff invites all veteran officers of the rank of **Air Vice Marshal and below with spouse** to a reception to celebrate 87th Anniversary of the IAF on 06 Oct 19 (Sunday) at 1900 h at the lawns of Air Force Auditorium, Subroto Park, New Delhi -110010.

All retired **officers of the rank of Air Vice Marshal and below** are requested to intimate their current address telephone numbers and E-mail ID to Air Force Association, AFND and to Air Cmde Org (Cer) at Air HQ in writing or by E-mail at the following addresses.

E-mail IDs
Air Force Association : afaheadoffice@gmail.com
Air HQ (VB) : cer@iaf.nic.in

Parking arrangements will be as follows:-
(a) AVMs & Air Cmdes - Auditorium Parking.
(b) Gp Cpts & below - Road between AFCME & TAFS (Shuttle service to the venue provided)

RSVP : 23015478 - On all working days.
Dress : Open Collar
Note:
(a) All Air Veterans are requested to be in possession of ROIC.
(b) Due to limited availability of parking space at Air Force Auditorium guests are advised to share vehicles.

davp 10802/11/0026/1920

EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY CANCELLATION / DIVERSION / SHORT TERMINATION / SHORT ORIGATION OF TRAINS DUE TO NON-INTERLOCKING WORK

This is notified for the information of general public that Railway had undertaken the Non-Interlocking work in connection with doubling work between Hardatpur - Kachhwa Road Stations on Varanasi - Allahabad Section from 01.09.2019 to 06.09.2019. The same was notified in various newspapers on 24.08.2019. In view of some important additions in the work, the duration of traffic blocks is being extended for 02 more days i.e. upto 08.09.2019. Consequently, the following trains will temporarily be affected as under :-

CANCELLATION OF TRAINS		
Train No. & Name	Date(s) of Cancellation (from originating stations)	
55126/55127/55128/55129 Allahabad City-Manduadih Passenger	up to 08.09.2019	
15118 Jabalpur - Manduadih Express	up to 08.09.2019	

DIVERSION OF TRAINS		
Train No. & Name	Diverted via	Date(s) from originating stn.)
12792 Danapur - Secunderabad Jn Express	Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn. - Allahabad Chheoki	08.09.2019
19064 Danapur - Udhna Jn Express	Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn. - Allahabad Chheoki	08.09.2019
14006 Anand Vihar (T) - Sitamarhi Lichchavi Express	Allahabad Jn - Janghai - Jaunpur - Aunrihar Jn	07.09.2019
14005 Sitamarhi - Anand Vihar (T) Lichchavi Express	Aunrihar Jn - Jaunpur - Janghai - Allahabad Jn	07.09.2019 & 08.09.2019

SHORT TERMINATION/SHORT ORIGATION OF TRAINS

Train No. & Train Name	Train to short terminate at / originate from	Date(s) from originating station
12333 Howrah Jn - Allahabad City Vibhuti Express	at Manduadih	07.09.2019
12334 Allahabad City - Howrah Jn Vibhuti Express	from Manduadih	07.09.19 & 08.09.19

Note:- For any kind of information passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in

Security Helpline No. 182 and Passengers Complaint Helpline No. 138

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New Delhi

epaper.indianexpress.com

12

IDEA EXCHANGE

NEWSMAKERS IN THE NEWSROOM

Should we reject all traditional wisdom outright? That would not be scientific... We need to have a good scientific investigation into our traditional wisdom... Countries like China have monetised it”



WHY ASHUTOSH SHARMA

Since taking charge five years ago, Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, has been at the centre of the government’s major policy interventions and funding decisions in the field. Recently, his department announced 15 SATHI (Sophisticated Analytical & Technical Help Institutes)



“Young girls are told maths is not for them, their brains are wired differently... Complete nonsense... Areas like AI, IoT, it’s all maths... If youth are told this, they will see excitement, opportunities in the field

ASHUTOSH SHARMA: The good news is that our budget has been doubled. So you can’t complain about a lack of resources. In terms of scientific output, India is at No. 5 position in the world. That’s a very positive story. Now, while we are doing good in terms of numbers, we also need to enhance the quality of our research, especially disruptive research... For that we have to move from incremental research to profound research. Ten per cent of our research budget has been kept aside for disruptive ideas.

The other weakness that we want to address is related to technology translation. So while we are very good at knowledge generation, we are not equally good at knowledge consumption. Most people think innovation is some great invention... Invention produces knowledge, but innovation is using this knowledge to create new economic and socio-economic opportunities. This is where our knowledge system has been a little bit weak... We need to complete this circle of knowledge, from invention to innovation. At the same time, we need to strengthen our innovation ecosystem. For that we have made about 70 new incubators in the last four years — the same number was set up in 40 years before that... We are looking at mentoring people, creating business plans for them, providing pre-incubation funding, fellowships... and connecting start-ups with established industries. We are strengthening every part of the chain with new schemes.

AMITABH SINHA: Even though the budget seems to have increased over the last five years, we hear voices from within the scientific community about fund cuts at both individual and institutional levels.

A part of the problem related to budgets and funding is perceptual. There has been an increase in fellowships, for example, varying from 15 to 35 per cent. Secondly, any increase is tagged with inflation. So if inflation is 10 per cent, then the increase (in funding) has to be more. We have to look at the indices, and there has to be a logic to it. We could obviously do with more, but this (current budget) was a reasonable raise — logical and rational.

Secondly, do we need more resources for scientific research? Certainly, and it has been growing. But, we must keep in mind the absorption capacity. If you look not just at research funding but research funding per scientist, then India would compare favourably with many countries. It’s because the number of our scientists is also much more limited. For example, we are almost six times smaller than China.

There are other factors too: one is the purchase power parity. If you look at it in terms of human resources, there is a huge differential. For example, a PhD student at MIT might cost about US \$100,000 per year. So when you say that a million-dollar grant is typical in the US, the fact is that it only supports some PhD students. Here, all of that comes for free. A large number of our PhD students get fellowships from the government, different agencies, from the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Ministry of Human Resource Development, the University Grants Commission, and this is not factored in the research funding. About 80,000 PhD students in our country are supported through full fellowships. If you multiply this with \$100,000 every year, you will see that the budget is actually much more than what is visible on the surface.

Having said that, we certainly do need more funding. Now that means we must define large missions which are relevant, of quality, and which would be useful in securing our future. There are three-four large-scale missions being formulated now and these will bring exciting new opportunities and more funding.

AMITABH SINHA: What are these new missions?

One of them is quantum devices and technologies. It’s for the future. We need to be ready for the future 10 years from now... The other is the clean energy mission. Clean energy in the Indian context has a somewhat different meaning than other places. We have lots of coal but the only way we are using it is for generating power, which is a ‘dirtier’ option. So we need to have a few things done immediately. One is clean coal production or clean power production using coal, which is called advanced ultra super-critical technology. We started working on it two years ago. In the next couple of years, all new power plants are going to use this technology, which increases the efficiency of power conversion and decreases the emission.

Another mission that is underway is ‘Map India’. It’s a huge technology mission. We could not have done this five years ago — to map every nook and corner of India at 10 cm accuracy, in terms of both height and

‘Education has been reduced to cracking exams... We cannot be producing zombies’

Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, Dept of Science & Technology, talks about developments in the field, laments the state of school education, dismisses “difference” between Indian and foreign journals, and explains why there is falling interest in science among children



Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, with Pune Resident Editor Amitabh Sinha in *The Indian Express* newsroom. Amit Mehra

lateral mapping, and then geotag all our assets, all our boundaries. It would be a game changer because something like this hasn’t happened in a hundred years.

AMITABH SINHA: Why doesn’t India have a world-class journal of its own?

It’s partly because of our cultural legacy... (We feel) that the things that we produce or have are not as good unless they are certified by somebody from outside. We need to work on this mindset. Today’s generation has much more confidence than my generation did. But there is this cultural legacy as per which we cannot be as successful in science as the so-called developed nations. For a century or more, our scientists have been going out. Now, we have introduced a new scheme under which the best global scientists can come here and work. It has been hugely successful. These scientists get integrated with our universities and IITs, spend up to three months every year in our country, and guide our PhD students. So, instead of sending a 100 students out, if one big scientist comes here, it produces a culture that influences 100 people right here. The scheme is called VAJRA (Visiting Advanced Joint Research) Faculty scheme. We had about 500 applicants and we chose only 50. The scheme has brought about a big change.

As for producing world-class journals, there is no differentiation now between international and national journals because all of them are held by multinationals. There is no country specificity. All journals are judged by the same yardstick — impact factor, citation rate etc. So, as we improve the quality of our journals, it will not be a question of who is publishing them. In fact our best journal, Indian journal if you may call it, was from the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bengaluru. It is now being published by an international conglomerate as well because it has greater reach. So what we need to strengthen — it doesn’t matter where it is published, don’t call it a national journal or international journal — is the quality and utilisation of our knowledge, and then many journals will come out.

ABANTIKA GHOSH: How does the HRD Minister asking IIT engineers to look into how Ram Setu was built impact the knowledge ecosystem?

I will not comment on what an individual has said. I think the larger issue here is that should we reject all traditional wisdom or knowledge outright. That would not be scientific. Clearly, there are issues re-

lated to sustainable growth, water conservation, traditional medicinal herbs, lifestyle choices such as yoga and meditation... we need to have a good scientific understanding and investigation into our traditional wisdom. We must not reject it simply because it is traditional wisdom. Some countries like China have monetised it. They have done a lot of research related to lifestyle choices, especially herbal treatments. In our case, we have Ayurvedic treatments. It requires scientific investigation. To reject it would be unscientific.

AMITABH SINHA: What would the Chandrayaan-2 mission mean for Indian science?

(The Idea Exchange was held on September 2, before the mission failed.)

It’s a very good example of a mega project where you define the deliverables — this is the objective, this is the mission, and I have to bring all kinds of science and technology together to make it successful. India is a partner in many international mega projects. For example, CERN’s Large Hadron Collider, the Thirty Meter Telescope, the largest telescope facility coming up in the world. Also in LIGO, which is detecting gravitational waves. Typically these are driven by the DST and the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE). We are typically 50-50 partners. And, in the future, if we were to set up this or the components of this technology, we would have the knowhow... We want that our industry should start bidding more and more for international projects based on the knowhow that is generated and passed on to them. So there are these big international tenders coming

from CERN etc. Our industry must competitively participate in that process.

AMITABH SINHA: But unlike in other countries, we haven’t seen a very thriving private space industry in India. Why is technology diffusion not happening here?

There is absolutely no doubt that such a situation is very desirable because it is the muscle of the industry that drives the economy forward. But it is happening more and more. Perhaps 10-15 years ago the missions were very inwardly focused. (Now) the DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation), ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation), what you call the strategic departments dealing with science and technology, they are interfacing with the industry more and more. That is certainly a desirable direction and I am hopeful that more of it will happen.

RITIKA CHOPRA: There have been complaints from colleges of not getting enough students in pure sciences. Then, more than half the seats in engineering colleges in the country are vacant. Does that worry you as far as the future of science and technology is concerned?

We do need some very fundamental changes in our school education, in the sense that we need to become more critical, instead of just mugging up everything in the books and reproducing it in exams. What have we really learnt from school education? We have learnt to crack exams. If you ask someone, why are we actually going to school, they will say to get into IIT.

And what after IIT? They will say I will get a job. The meaning of education, the capacity to learn in a changing world, has been reduced to this bottomline. It is not very conducive to either growth of knowledge or growth of the economy. The two are intertwined.

We have to produce thinking, living people — young people who have energy. It’s too late by the time you get to a PhD or get a job. That foundation starts from nursery. For example, if you want to get admission to MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), what do you do? They (the university) doesn’t just rely on a grade or a single school exam, they go ahead and conduct an interview. They look at extracurricular activities, they would look at what is the potential of this person. Can we do that? You would immediately see the problems in translating this idea in the context of the reality that we have. But it has to be addressed. There is absolutely no other option. We cannot be producing a large number of zombies. What we have is the individual brilliance of people, a desire to grow, a desire to be creative in finding solutions... How do we leverage that?

About the less interest in science, it has something to do with societal values and the industrial jobs that are available. If the industry was more knowledge-based, then you would have had more people pursuing science. It is a question of supply and demand. It’s the same for less interest in mathematics. There is a cultural aspect to it. I know that a lot of young girls are told in high school that mathematics is not for them, that their brains are wired differently. This is complete nonsense. So they opt for biology, medicine, but not mathematics. When people look at job opportunities in mathematics... they don’t realise that there are a lot of contemporary areas such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, Internet of Things, all of that is mathematics. So if we present mathematics in this way, it will be inspirational for our young people because they will then see the excitement and opportunities in the field.

What also worries me is that anybody who is bright is either doing medicine, engineering or MBA. Why are they not pursuing history, archaeology, philosophy? It is because of the societal values (attached to the) Arts. The top 10 per cent people of the country are only being drawn into certain professions and that makes for a very distorted society. So what is true of mathematics, is also true of the Arts.

RAJ KAMAL JHA: Is there an institutional way for the DST to convey some of these concerns to school boards such as the CBSE or ICSE?

There are. Under the umbrella of scientific social responsibility, there are a whole lot of things that go on. But finally, it is change within the society which leads to transformation. It does not come from the government.

AMITABH SINHA: You are a product of the IIT system. In the last 15 years, IITs have seen a huge expansion. Is it a step in the right direction?

It is true that for many decades we did not build anything. There were these five IITs... It would have been best if we had continued to build quality institutions. So if your question is do we need more (IITs), we certainly need more. Look at China. They have the same population as us. When I went to China 20 years ago, I said that they are far worse than us. We had better institutions than them. Then, they used to visit our IITs. I remember there was a delegation and they looked at what made IIT great etc. They looked very carefully into every process and then said that they would make a 100 next year.

So we certainly need more (institutions). Having said that, we have to pay attention to not just creating a brand but sustaining that brand. We need to get the right kind of faculty... The foundation should be strong. If you miss out on the right kind of human resources in the beginning, then it takes nearly a generation or two before you can bring about any change.

NANDAGOPAL RAJAN: Technology is always moving really fast, and policy seems to be lagging behind. Many companies are exploiting this, including data firms. Is there an effort to reduce this lag?

One has to be far more responsive to technology challenges today. I think there is a greater awareness of this in our bureaucratic mechanisms. Disruptive technology changes are coming at faster and faster speeds. Artificial intelligence, the rise of intelligent machines, is a very good example of it. So our scientists also have to wake up to the scale, speed and pervasiveness of the changes. These disruptive technology changes require that I be aware of not only what I do, but also all the proximal areas of technology.



13 SUNDAY STORY

ON SEPTEMBER 2, when Karnal Singh, former Director of the Enforcement Directorate (ED), issued a press statement denying charges of alleged bribery levelled against him by a former deputy, the first to take a dig at him was Karti Chidambaram. He wrote on Twitter: “I feel the pain of Karnal Singh against “unsubstantiated allegations” @dir_ed (ED’s official twitter handle). The chickens come home to roost.”

Karti’s jibe was in reference to the INX Media case, in which he is a key accused and his father, former finance minister P Chidambaram, is in judicial custody in Delhi’s Tihar Jail. The entire INX media case is the result of a proactive ED chasing the Chidambarams for more than half a decade now.

In December 2015, ED had conducted searches at offices allegedly linked to Karti in Chennai and elsewhere. The raids were conducted in connection with the agency’s money laundering probe into the Aircel-Maxis deal. During the searches, the agency stumbled upon documents that suggested that a company “indirectly controlled” by Karti had received payments from INX Media in the period that it was granted Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) approval for FDI.

The agency promptly sent a reference, along with the seized documents, to the CBI, which registered a case in the matter in May 2017. The ED followed this up with a case of money laundering against Karti based on the CBI FIR. (Under the statute that governs the agency, the ED cannot initiate a money laundering probe against anyone unless an FIR has been registered by another agency or state police on charges with financial implications.) In February 2018, the CBI arrested Karti.

The ED further sent a reference, along with documents, on payments made by as many as four companies to some of Karti’s alleged firms around the time they received FIPB approvals. CBI sources now say the agency is probing the father-son duo in these cases as well.

The series of events since 2015 is a pointer to how the ED has emerged as arguably the most proactive of Central investigative agencies, now at the centre of several high-profile cases, many of these involving members of opposition parties. Increasingly dreaded in the power corridors, it is now referred to as “the new CBI”.

As an ED officer put it: “Just listen to the statements of opposition leaders when they attack the government on ‘misuse of agencies’. Earlier, it used be ‘the government has unleashed CBI, IT and ED against its opponents’. These days, the order invariably is the ED, CBI and IT.”

Enforcement Directorate chief SK Mishra declined to offer his comments for this story.

A long list of cases

The ED’s swift, often bullish, approach has been evident in the way it has dealt with several other cases, among them the one involving Ratul Puri, nephew of Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath. In July, Puri embarrassed the ED by escaping from its office where he had been called for questioning in connection with the Rs 3,600 crore AgustaWestland chopper deal case. Puri excused himself to visit the washroom and then never came back. By afternoon, he approached a Delhi court for anticipatory bail.

In subsequent days, the court saw unprecedented drama where, in a bid to win his custody, the ED went on to claim that a witness in the case may have been murdered.

With the anticipatory bail plea going on to linger in the Delhi High Court, the ED had the last laugh. Before the High Court could pronounce a verdict on August 20 on Puri’s anticipatory bail plea, the ED arrested him in another case, that of bank fraud. That afternoon, even his bail plea was rejected.

On September 3, the ED arrested Congress leader and former Karnataka minister D K Shivakumar after questioning him for over 30 hours starting August 30. The ED probe against Shivakumar is based on a chargesheet filed last year by the Income Tax Department alleging tax evasion.

Even in the AgustaWestland case, the ED has been steps ahead of the CBI in terms of arrests or legal submission in the form of chargesheets. While the CBI registered an FIR in the case in March 2013 and the ED initiated its money laundering probe only later, it was the ED that made the first arrest in the case — middleman Gautam Khetan was held in September 2014 and the agency subsequently filed the first prosecution complaint (equivalent to a chargesheet) in the case. It even chargesheeted British middleman Christian Michel much before he arrived in India.

The CBI, on the other hand, made its first arrest in the case — that of former IAF chief SP Tyagi — only in May 2016. It has since filed multiple chargesheets in the case.

While probing former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Hooda or the Gandhi family too, the ED has shown greater alacrity than the CBI.

In July 2016, taking cognisance of a Haryana Vigilance Bureau FIR registered in May that year, the ED registered a case of money laundering against Hooda for allotting a plot in Panchkula to Associate Journals Ltd (AJL), the publisher of *National Herald* newspaper. AJL is owned by Young India, which in turn is run by the Gandhi family. The ED has since not only taken possession of the land but even filed a prosecution complaint against Congress leaders Motilal Vora and Hooda. The CBI registered a case in the matter only in April 2017.

Similarly, in the case of Robert Vadra, son-in-law of Congress president Sonia Gandhi, it was the ED which first raided the offices of Skylight Hospitality, a company at the heart of several dubious land deals in Rajasthan and Haryana and owned by Vadra.

In December 2018, the ED raided the offices of Skylight Hospitality, claiming the



ED’s long arm

The Enforcement Directorate is now investigating several high-profile cases, including the INX Media case against former Union minister P Chidambaram. DEEPTIMAN TIWARY on ED’s transformation from a small enforcement agency prosecuting civil offences to becoming “the new CBI”

searches were in connection with certain properties owned by Vadra in London through controversial arms dealer Sanjay Bhandari. Vadra has denied these charges. The agency was also the first to question Vadra and has interrogated him eight times following the raids.

Even in the Bikaner land scam case, the ED registered a case even before the CBI could, taking cognisance of state police FIRs in 2015. The CBI registered a case only in August 2017.

It was again based on a reference sent by the ED and the evidence provided by the agency that the CBI in June registered a case against Sanjay Bhandari and Swiss company Pilatus Aircrafts Ltd for alleged bribery in the 2012 deal for purchase of 75 trainer aircraft from Pilatus at a cost of Rs 2,895 crore. It has already sent details of alleged bribery in an ONGC-Samsung Engineering deal associated with Bhandari to the CBI for further action.

Even in the Rs 14,000 crore bank fraud case against Gujarat businessmen Chetan and Nitin Sandesara of the Sterling Biotech group, while it was the CBI which registered a case first, the ED has taken the lead by questioning Congress leader Ahmed Patel’s son Faisal and son-in-law Irfan Siddiqui in the case.

In 2016, it was based on references sent by the ED that the CBI began probing the role of former CBI directors A P Singh and Ranjit Sinha in the Moin Qureshi case.

A new, aggressive ED

For much of its existence since 1957, the ED remained a small enforcement agency with its domain limited to the corporate world and often prosecuting civil offences. It was only in 1973, with amendments brought into FERA, that the ED acquired some teeth.

Over the next three decades, it handled many high-profile cases, and booked the likes of Maharani Gayatri Devi, J Jayalalithaa, T T V Dhinakaran, Hema Malini, Feroz Khan, Vijay Malliya (then just a liquor baron), Reliance rival Orkay Group, Weston TV and then BCCL chairman Ashok Jain for alleged FERA violations.

“FERA, 1973, was a very powerful law. It allowed even an Enforcement Officer (equivalent to an inspector) to arrest anyone and enter any business premises without a warrant. Even an Assistant EO could search any vehicle or person without a warrant. With so much power, the ED then even courted allegations of third-degree torture in custody. But even then, the ED’s domain was largely limited to the corporate world. It remained a dreaded agency among businessmen until the ‘90s,” says a senior ED officer who has spent close to 30 years in the agency.

With the liberalisation of the economy, FERA began to be viewed as an excessively coercive and obsolete law and was repealed in January 2000. It was replaced by the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), which turned forex violations into civil offences, compoundable after payment of a fine. The move served to defang the ED as it could no more arrest or take people into custody.

“At that time, even a debate had begun whether an agency like the ED was needed. The staff which was used to taking coercive action had its morale down. Officers stopped coming on deputation to the agency,” the ED officer says.

This was also the time, however, when 9/11 attacks brought international focus on terror financing. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) had already been established and there was pressure on India to bring in mechanism to deal with money laundering.

THE ED SCORECARD		
UNDER PMLA		
Total cases (since 2005)		2,400 (approx)
Investigation pending		898
Cases ending in conviction		8
Value of Assets Attached		Rs 56,961 crore
UNDER FEMA		
Total cases since 2005		12,000 (approx)
Cases pending probe		6,944
<i>All data up to June 30, 2019</i>		
ED CASES UNDER UPA (2004-2014)		
	■ Case against former Jharkhand CM Madhu Koda (left) and others. Status: Former Jharkhand minister Harinarayan Rai convicted	Dasari Narayan Rao, Naveen Jindal (Cong). Chargesheets filed
	■ 2G and Aircel Maxis case against A Raja, Dayanidhi Maran, Kanimozhi and other DMK leaders. The DMK was then in alliance with the Congress. All acquitted	■ Saradha scam against TMC leaders Madan Mitra, Kunal Ghosh. Chargesheets filed
	■ CWG case against Suresh Kalmadi. Charges framed, trial on	■ Bellary mining scam against Gali Janardhan Reddy and brothers (BJP). Multiple chargesheets filed
	■ AgustaWestland chopper deal. Multiple chargesheets filed	■ Vapnic projects case against YS Jagan Mohan Reddy (YSRCP). Multiple chargesheets filed
	■ Coal scam case against Koda,	■ Drug case in which Akali Dal leader Bikram Singh Majithia was questioned. Chargesheet filed, Majithia not named
ED CASES UNDER NDA (SINCE 2014)		
	■ Vyapam case, in which BJP’s Laxmikant Sharma is an accused. Status: Multiple chargesheets filed	■ J&K Cricket Association case against National Conference’s Farooq Abdullah (left). Probe on
	■ Manesar land scam, AJL case against Bhupinder Hooda. Chargesheet filed in AJL case	■ IRCTC scam case against RJD leaders Lalu
	■ INX Media case against P Chidambaram and son Karti. Probe on	Prasad, Rabri Devi, Tejaswi Yadav. Probe on
	■ Bank loan fraud and Agusta-Westland. Probe on into role of Kamal Nath’s nephew Ratul Puri	■ Rajasthan ambulance scam against Cong leaders Ashok Gehlot, Karti Chidambaram, Sachin Pilot. Probe on
	■ Hawala case against D K Shivakumar (Congress). Probe on	■ Sand mining scam against Akhilesh Yadav. Probe on
	■ Bank loan fraud case against Sujana Chowdary (TDP-turned-BJP): Probe on	■ Statue case against Mayawati. Probe on
	■ Sterling Biotech loan fraud case in which Ahmed Patel’s son and son-in-law have been questioned. Probe on	■ Narada sting case against TMC leaders. Probe on

And thus was born the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

Much of the ED’s current aggression, followed by frenetic media coverage, has come about in the past one decade since the ED began to handle political cases under the PMLA. Ironically, much of it happened during the tenure of P Chidambaram as Finance Minister. It was under him that the PMLA came into force in 2005 — though it was the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government that brought the PMLA Bill to Parliament, which passed it in 2002 — and the ED acquired criminal prosecution powers that had been snatched from it after the repeal of FERA.

It was under Chidambaram that the ED began to frequently take up political cases and

regularly hit headlines with actions in the Madhu Koda case, the 2G scam probe, the Aircel-Maxis case, the CWG case, the Sahara case, the Bellary mining case involving the BJP’s Reddy brothers, the Vapnic projects case involving Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy and cases against Baba Ramdev during the UPA regime.

The cases against Ramdev were closed after the NDA came to power. The Madhu Koda case became the first in the history of the agency to end in conviction. The 2G scam case has fallen through in court and the accused in the Aircel-Maxis case have been discharged. The CWG case and the Sahara case are still on. In the cases against the Reddy Brothers and Jagan, there have been no major developments since the NDA came to power.

PMLA: New, strengthened

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M

IN THE backdrop of legal setbacks in high-profile corruption cases like 2G spectrum scam and Aircel-Maxis deal, the government had strengthened the PMLA in July this year.

In December 2017, Special Judge O P Saini of a Delhi special court had acquitted all accused in the CBI’s 2G case and discharged those in the Aircel-Maxis case. As the predicate offence (the offence that is part of a larger offence) fell, Saini had simply dismissed the ED’s money laundering investigations. The ED had challenged this in the High Court, and sought that the law be amended to let money laundering be free of predicate offences.

In July 2019, the government widened the definition of ‘proceeds of crime’ in the form of amendments to the Finance Bill, 2019.

The ramification of the definition was two-fold. First, the ED could now prosecute persons or entities, even if the ‘proceeds of crime’ were not under the PMLA. This meant ‘proceeds of crime’ were no more a standalone crime under the PMLA and assets created through any criminal activity were treated as ‘proceeds of crime’.

More importantly, the government also deleted provisions related to search and seizure in the PMLA, doing away with the pre-requisite of an FIR or chargesheet by other agencies authorised to probe the offences listed in the PMLA.

The other amendment related to the insertion of an explanation in Section 44 of the PMLA. “A new proviso is being added to only make sure that where a case exists in one court and hearings are going on there, and where in a different court there could be proceedings happening, this cannot be dubbed together and treated as one,” the Bill said.

This meant proceedings initiated by the IT against Shivakumar, for example, would be treated separately from the money laundering case under the PMLA.

Some other cases, which both the CBI and ED have been probing, include the chit fund scams against former Trinamool leader Mukul Roy and former Congress leader Himanta Biswa Sarma. Investigations against both have seen no significant development since these leaders joined the BJP. Similarly, no legal action has been reported against former TDP MP Sujana Chowdhary in a money laundering case associated with bank fraud since he joined the BJP in June.

The PMLA’s ambit was increased through amendments in 2009 and 2013, giving the ED the teeth it now has. Its provisions practically make the ED far more powerful than the CBI. It’s the only Act in the country where a statement recorded before an investigat-

EXPLAINED E.

What gives the ED its teeth

ARMED WITH the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, a law that has been strengthened over the years since it came into force in 2005, the Enforcement Directorate has fast risen to be a powerful Central agency. The statute’s provisions — granting the agency powers to arrest, and attach properties and assets of the accused, its stringent bail conditions, and making a statement recorded before an investigating officer admissible in a court as evidence, among others — have made the ED far more powerful than the CBI. Despite securing just eight convictions since 2005, over the past five years, the ED has been more proactive than the CBI in going after the accused in several key political cases, the most recent being the INX Media case against P Chidambaram and the alleged money laundering case against Karnataka Congress leader D K Shivakumar.

ing officer is admissible in a court as evidence. Laws with such provisions, such as TADA and POTA, have long been repealed.

In 2011, the ED underwent massive restructuring, becoming a force of 2,067 officers (sanctioned strength) and staff, up from 758 earlier, even as its offices increased from 21 to 49 across the country. In comparison, the CBI has 4,000 officers and staff.

Until 2017, the Act had a provision that an arrested accused could be granted bail only if the court was satisfied that the accused was not guilty. The provision was struck down by the Supreme Court on the ground that it presupposed the trial at the stage of bail itself.

Until this provision was in force, those accused under the PMLA rarely got bail before an incarceration that could last anywhere between two and three years. Given that money laundering offences attract between three and seven years of punishment in jail, this was considered practically like serving the sentence. Almost no one got bail until a chargesheet in the case was filed. Of the over 120 persons accused by the ED and arrested under the PMLA between 2005 and 2017, no more than two or three people secured bail in a matter of months.

Kashmiri separatist leader Shabbir Shah, who was booked by the ED in connection with an alleged terror funding case in 2017, is still behind bars. NCP leader Chhagan Bhujbal, arrested in March 2016 in a money laundering case, was granted bail in May 2018 after two years of incarceration.

But the most potent and coercive tool that the Act grants the ED is the power to attach properties of the accused. The PMLA also puts the burden of proof on the accused as it presumes intent. Under the statute, if a person possesses a property that the agency can prove has been bought with the proceeds of a crime, it is not bound by law to prove that the person had an intention to launder money. Similarly, Section 22 states that where any property or records are seized from any person under this Act, it shall be presumed that such a person is the owner of such property or records.

These properties, often worth crores of rupees and sometimes residences of the accused — 50% of Chidambaram’s Jor Bagh bungalow has been attached by the ED — can become out of bounds for the accused for years if the agency takes possession of it.

In contrast, the CBI can only arrest and prosecute people.

Only 8 convictions since 2005

However, for all its powers and show of strength, the agency has a rather poor record in terms of taking cases to the logical conclusion. Of around 2,400 cases that it has registered under the PMLA since 2005, only eight have ended in conviction. Its investigation too has remained tardy, with prosecution complaints having been filed in only 688 cases till June 2019.

It’s this record that has remained a matter of concern for the Ministry of Finance. In 2016, then Revenue Secretary Hansmukh Adhia had chided the agency for slow investigations and no convictions. In reply, then ED Director Karnal Singh had said that ED cases were delayed because they were associated with “influential people”.

Agency sources said poor conviction did not reflect on the agency but rather on the judiciary. “Till date, there has been just one acquittal in PMLA cases. All our prosecution complaints have been taken cognisance of. Our investigation is tardy because we have just 1,000 staff,” a senior officer says.

Besides, they point out, the PMLA came into effect only in 2005, and 14 years is not a long time to secure convictions in Indian courts.

For a small agency, the ED has been punching way above its weight. It continues to work under severe stress with close to 50% vacancies even as the number of cases entrusted to it keep on rising. The agency does not even have its own building. With no detention rooms of its own, unlike the CBI, the ED sends arrested accused to dingy lock-ups of local police stations — the reason why many politicians resist an ED custody more forcefully than the CBI’s.

‘Reviewing emeritus status a bid to show regime’s muscle’

In an interview to SEEMA CHISHTI, historian ROMILA THAPAR speaks about the row over JNU asking for her CV to review her Professor Emeritus status, laments the state of the university, talks of a “creeping fear” among people in asserting their rights, and says history is more complex than just a past narrative

You have been asked for your CV. As a historian, what does this tell you about the questioners?

Nowhere in the world is an Emeritus Professor ever reconsidered for the status. The status can be negated if the person has committed a crime that embarrasses the university. But the status is not routinely reviewed... Nor is there a quota. Since the post is honorary, the number does not matter at all. It in no way blocks the appointment of more Professors Emeritus.

Further, the demand for re-evaluation by a university committee is a slur on the Centre (JNU’s Centre for Historical Studies), since the Centre originally recommended the name.

I am puzzled as to why suddenly in the last few months, the university administration decided to go back on the terms and conditions of the Emeritus as these have existed since the beginning of the university in 1970. To maintain that a changed rule can apply retrospectively shows little understanding of legal systems. The other obvious aspect suggests that this may have been an attempt to show the muscle of the new regime... and reject those who had been honoured earlier.

I have greatly appreciated being an Emeritus Professor at JNU, both because I enjoyed the continuity of exchanging ideas with younger scholars and colleagues as I have always done, and of course I felt close to an institution that I helped found. Those of us who joined the university when it began had a deep commitment to the idea that we as

Indians were capable of building a university which would be a world-class university and adhere to all the principles of a great university — free-thinking, free-questioning... To our great delight, we succeeded in doing that. So one can’t help but feel that actions like the present one and similar other recent actions, where the administration has asserted itself as being the decision-maker in the university even in academic matters, are largely attempts to undo all that was invested in JNU previously and reduce it to a pedestrian institution of education.

What does the state of Indian universities tell us about the state of the nation?

As a society, we are in a situation where we are being encouraged to be anti-thinking, anti-intellectual, anti-academic. Students are discouraged from asking questions, organising debates and discussions, and expressing opinions in various fora. This is the beginning of undermining what is meant by a university.

The freedom to debate, the freedom to read what you want to read, is essential to a university. I think the kind of thinking behind this last order from the Registrar, and other similar orders, are attempts at trying to assert the authority of those running the university over teachers and students, who form the intellectual core of the university.

This is not just happening at JNU. Why are college teachers, who make a critical two-sentence statement in class, arrested? If they write something on Facebook that is



‘We are being encouraged to be anti-thinking, anti-academic.’ Tashi Tobgyal

disagreeable to the government, they are picked up. Why is there an attempt to equate the government and nation, which are distinct entities? Surely, a remark that is critical of a government policy is not automatically anti-national.

Maybe we should redefine, and repeat-

edly so, what we mean by saying that we are a democracy. It is said that as a democracy we are in some ways more effective as compared to quite a few other nations that are only theoretical democracies. But when it comes to people asserting their democratic rights, there is now a creeping fear.

Intellectuals and professors are now being seen as the new ‘elite’. How do you view this?

I wish we were the elite! What this last JNU episode shows is that academics are far from being the elite since their status is being consistently down-graded by the administration. Yes, intellectualism in a sense is ‘elite’, but only in societies that respect intellectuals, writers and those who think critically outside the bounds of convention. We are busy these days in describing such people as ‘Urban Naxals’ and shoving them into jails.

What we really have to caution against is the attitude of anti-intellectualism that is evident in society today. One of the indicators of this is the role of trolling as a form of persuasion — and the more abusive it is, the better it works — keeping in mind the formula of Goebbels that if you tell a lie sufficiently often and effectively, it will be taken as the truth.

Part of the reason for the anti-intellectualism is that people are not encouraged to think about alternatives to better their lives. Making money and acquiring status is not illegitimate, but surely there are other aspects that need nurturing, such as understanding what is meant by creating a humane society and abolishing mob-rule and

lawlessness, by insisting on social justice and social equality. These are the basics of a democratic system.

How do you look at how history is now being written and taught?

History is far more complex than we assume. It is no longer just a narrative about a past event — who won or lost a battle. We are now interested in explaining what were the antecedents to a battle, who actually fought the battle, for what purpose, who constituted the armies and what was the extended result. When the battle at Haldighati is historically investigated, it becomes evident that Rana Pratap did not win the battle and much more than that is also revealed about who fought on which side and what was the politics involved in the confrontation. These are revelations that the myth-makers prefer to keep under wraps. In any case, there are far more important issues in the study of medieval India than the question of who won the battle of Haldighati. The purpose of emphasising this event is not for reasons of improving our historical understanding of what happened but for using it in current politics.

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ANKITA DWIVEDI JOHRI

AROUND NOON on August 25, Choti Devi, a tailor, was hard at work on her sewing machine, rushing to finish pending orders. Her four children, the eldest nine years old and the youngest three, were sitting around in the one-room house, fiddling with their books and toys.

Just then, there was a knock on the door. “I was suspicious... scared... My husband would return only in the evening,” says the 27-year-old. As she gingerly opened the door, she saw a woman in worn-out clothes and frizzled hair. “She told me, ‘Do you have children?... Give them these biscuits.’”

That was it — Devi’s worst fears had come true. “*Bachche churane waali ab hamare gaon mein aa gayi*” (The child lifter had now come to our village). I began to scream and warned my children not to step out. All the WhatsApp messages I had been receiving for the past weeks had warned me against this. My children had not been going to school for at least a week. I didn’t want to lose them,” she says, standing outside her house, one of 38 rooms in a building at Echar village in Uttar Pradesh’s Greater Noida area that mostly houses security guards, labourers, tailors and their families. “And, this women particularly resembled one of the two women whose picture I had got recently,” says Devi, whose husband has a “company job”.

She then pulls out her Samsung smartphone, the one she bought for Rs 6,000 earlier this year, to show a picture her sister-in-law had sent her. It is a grainy selfie of two women, one in her 50s and the other in her late 30s. The older woman has her head covered with a *dupatta*, while the younger one has a thick line of vermillion on her head.

A message accompanied the picture: “*Ye do ladies ke photos jitna ho sake share karo. Ye school, mohalle ke bahar se chote bachchon ko kidnarp kar taskari karti hain*” (Share this picture as much as possible. They kidnap little children from neighbourhoods and schools and smuggle them).”

“The woman who came with the biscuits looked like the older one,” says Devi, over a week after the incident.

Later, the alleged child lifter was reportedly beaten up by residents and handed over to the police. “We just held on to her till the police came, we didn’t beat her... We were a group of 15-20 women, we were all crying,” says Devi.

However, when Sub-Inspector Naseem Ahmed from Echar Police Station investigated the case, it turned out that the ‘child lifter’ was in fact a “mentally unstable woman who had strayed from her family”. “The family is from Nepal but they worked in Ghaziabad. When we realised she was mentally unstable, I took her to the women’s cell in Meerut and put out her pictures in newspapers. That is how we tracked her family. They have returned to Nepal now,” he says. “No one has been kidnapped in the Greater Noida area,” he adds.

In the past month, fuelled by fake messages and morphed videos, photographs and undated newspaper clippings on WhatsApp and Facebook, rumours about child kidnappers have led to panic in pockets of Uttar Pradesh, the National Capital Region, and Delhi, and also led to incidents of mob violence in many cases. In almost all instances,



In Greater Noida’s Echar village, residents received a WhatsApp message asking housewives not to open their doors to strangers. Gajendra Yadav

no child has been found to be kidnapped.

On August 29, Director General of Uttar Pradesh Police O P Singh warned that the National Security Act would be invoked against rumour-mongers, 82 of whom have been arrested by the state police so far.

Gautam Buddha Nagar Superintendent of Police Vineet Jaiswal, under whose jurisdiction Noida-Greater Noida falls, admits the rumours have been a concern. “In all the cases that have been reported to us, no one’s child has been kidnapped. We have already started drives to spread awareness. We are using loud-speakers to inform residents that these are just rumours. We have also reached out to village heads. There have been arrests of rumour-mongers too,” he said. There have been at least 10 incidents of mob attacks and commotion over child-lifting rumours in the past fortnight in the Noida-Greater Noida region.

Most of the incidents have been reported from villages such as Dankaur, Bhatta, Hoshiarpur, Morna, Nagli Wazidpur and Bhooda — all settlements that supply manpower to plush neighbourhoods that have come up in the region in the past decade — where literacy rates are not very high, but almost everyone has access to a smartphone.

Like the other residents of Echar village, Devi’s fears took root many weeks ago, when she first saw a long Facebook post. “*Gharelu mahilayon se anurodh hai ki kisi bhi aijnabi, jaise kabadi wala, feri waala, baba, ya bhikhari ke liye darwaza na kholein, aur galti se bhi na kahein, ‘Abhi koi ghar mein nahi hai’*.”

“After class, we get teachers to stand at gates to ensure that only parents speak to the children. If a parent fails to pick up her child, we get teachers to drop them home”

Apne bachchon ka dhyaan rakhein... (Housewives are requested not to open their doors to strangers such as scrap collectors, vendors, godmen and beggars, and never say, ‘There is no one at home’. Protect your children).”

That message, says 46-year-old security guard Raju Kumar, was widely shared on WhatsApp later and went on to state that “a group of 500 men and women are out on the prowl for small children”. That is when, he says, most women stopped sending their children, at least the younger ones, to school. “I have now opted for night shifts so that I am home during the day,” says Kumar, who has two

teenaged children.

His 15-year-old son Ankit Kumar promptly pulls out his phone to show a newspaper clipping that has a photograph of a godman with the headline: “*Kasba Elam mein sadhu ke vesh mein aaye the apharankarta*” (In Elam hamlet, kidnappers had come dressed as godmen). “This message came two weeks ago. I shared it with everyone,” says the teenager, sitting on a parked bike and scrolling rapidly through his phone.

Devi, who is standing nearby, jumps at the mention of the message. “Hadh’n’t a similar man come to our building too?” she says. “I was washing clothes outside, and my children were alone in the room. A man dressed in saffron clothes kept knocking on our door. I rushed in and told him to leave... I also alerted everyone about him. *Bachcha chor tha*” (He was a child lifter),” she says as the other residents,

who have by now gathered around her, nod in agreement.

One of them is Chandrakala, 32, who has just picked up her child from school. As her son, a Class 1 student, hides behind her, she says, “Their school is close by. But for the past few weeks, I have been picking and dropping them. I made them stay at home for a few days, but for how long could I have done that?”

But Mohd Naushad Ali, 30, isn’t taking chances. He had got his daughter admitted to Nursery earlier this year, but recently withdrew her admission. “She can start the session next year. *Mahaal bahut kharaab ho gaya hai abhi*” (The situation is very bad now). They are children, they get lured by toffees, biscuits. They don’t understand the danger,” he says, holding his four-year-old in his arm.

Apart from the videos and messages, what stoked Ali and Chandrakala’s fears was an audio message that they received on WhatsApp, which had a man narrating a kidnapping incident. “He also said that the kidnappers pulled out children’s organs and sold them,” says Chandrakala.

A few metres away, at the Chandrakanta School that has 450 students across Classes Nursery to 8, principal Saurabh Kumar says they have become more alert following the rumours. “When classes end, we get teachers to stand at the gates to ensure that no one apart from the parents speaks to the children. We have also asked all parents to pick and drop their children. If a parent fails to come, teachers drop the child home,” he says, sitting in his office in a run-down building.

While he admits there has been no case of kidnapping, he adds, “I can’t take a chance. We have told children, *seedhe jao, seedhe aao* (Come straight to school, and straight home).” “The other day I saw a beggar roaming near the school. I told her to leave. I knew she was not a kidnapper, but people could have mistaken her for one,” he says, while insisting that the incident “has not affected attendance much”.

Twenty-five kilometres away, in Bhatta village, Navjeet Singh, who stands in for his sarpanch wife Umesh Devi, has been struggling to quell the child-lifting rumours. Over the past week, his village WhatsApp group, ‘Jat Group’, has been flooded with videos and messages of child-lifting rumours. “*Sab South se hee aa rahein hain*” (All these messages are coming from the south of India). We don’t know how to stop them,” he says.

Singh says some of the youth in his village are using the rumours to “trick their parents”. “The young men in the village don’t want to work in the fields. Recently, a 15-year-old son of a farm labourer consumed some drugs and passed out. When he woke up and went home, he lied to his family that two bearded men had forced him to inhale something and tried to kidnap him,” he says, adding, “There has not been a single case of kidnapping.”

Singh has another argument, “All the rumours are circulating in places where the poor live. But who wants to kidnap children of the poor? What will they get? If there were real kidnappers roaming around, they would have eyed the kids of the rich, wouldn’t they have?”

Back in Echar village, with rumours swirling, both online and offline, Devi’s children are nagging their mother to let them go out to play. “No way. *Abhi nahin*” (Not now),” she says, ushering them back into her room.

Room for 3,000: Post-NRC Assam’s brand-new ‘jail’

Built as per Centre’s norms, the exclusive facility to house ‘illegal foreigners’ to be ready by end of year

ABHISHEK SAHA

WHILE UNCERTAINTY hangs over Assam’s newly declared final National Register of Citizens (NRC), for the past eight months, work has been on at a steady pace to build what would be the state’s first exclusive detention centre to house people declared as ‘illegal foreigners’ — a category into which people out of the list who don’t find reprieve at Foreigners’ Tribunals would eventually fall. On 20 bighas of land in Matia in Goalpara district, nestled between farmland and forest, at least 15 contractors and 450-500 labourers are at work to build the centre at a budget of over Rs 46 crore, with a capacity to house “up to 3,000 illegal foreigners”. Construction began last December and is expected to be completed by this year end. The facility will be enclosed within two walls, the first one 6-ft high and the second 20 ft. In a reply in the Assembly in July, the Assam government had said it had sent a proposal for 10 such new facilities to the Centre, and was waiting for a response. Assam currently has six detention cen-

Construction is going on in full swing. We are trying level best to meet the target deadline”

A K JHA, CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR, ASSAM POLICE HOUSING CORPORATION

tres to hold ‘illegal foreigners’, but these are all located inside jails. Together they house 1,000-odd detainees, in conditions which have been deplored by activists. As per a state government reply in the Assembly, FTs declared 1.03 lakh people foreigners between 1985 and August 2018. This number is expected to swell now after the final NRC. The detention centre at Matia, around 150 km from Guwahati, is being built as per guidelines laid down by the Centre and circulated in January 2019. A senior Assam government officer, who refused to be named, said, “The guidelines mention numerous points like a facility having a space to play, a school, etc. All that is being followed.” Talking about the “guidelines” in the Rajya



Construction of the centre, over 20 bighas, in Matia, Goalpara. Abhishek Saha

Sabha on July 24, Union Minister of State for Home, Nityanand Rai, had said, “With a view to formalise the setting up of detention/holding centres in States/U.T.s for restricting the movement of illegal immigrants/foreign nationals awaiting deportation, the Government has prepared a Model Detention Centre

Manual... The Manual covers amenities to be provided... for the inmates to maintain standards of living in consonance with basic human needs. This includes amenities like electricity, drinking water, toilets/baths with running water, communication facilities, provision for kitchen.”

As per the manual, members of the same family would be kept at the same centre, there would be segregated accommodation for male and female detainees, as well as special facilities for nursing mothers. A K Jha, Chairman and Managing Director of the Assam Police Housing Corporation, which is executing the construction, told *The Sunday Express*, “Construction is going on in full swing. We are trying level best to meet the target deadline.” Rabindra Kumar Das, a junior engineer at the Matia construction site, said the detention centre plan includes a primary school, a hospital, and a separate water supply system with a capacity of over 50,000 litres. “For detainees, there will be 15 four-storey buildings... The construction would have been almost complete if it had not rained. We are aiming now for the end of this year.” Apart from detention centres, the Assam government is trying to ready 200 new FTs to meet the post-NRC rush, to add to the existing 100 tribunals. The locations of the new tribunals have been decided, in either existing government establishments or newly hired ones. The panel of 221 to be appointed as Members at these FTs will undergo training till the appeal processes start. Assam’s Commissioner and Secretary (Home and Political) Department Ashutosh

Agnihotri said, “We are ready with the system and infrastructure for the filing of appeals. However, appeals can only be filed after the NRC authorities issue exclusion/rejection orders.” The NRC hasn’t specified when the excluded people would receive the rejection orders. Ruing “the lack of data from the NRC office”, an officer said, “We do not know the district or circle-wise break up of the excluded people. Thus, we do not know in which district or circle of a district we should perhaps put two instead of one new FT.” A few metres down from the Matia detention facility itself, lies a refugee settlement. It houses Bengali Hindus, and Hajongs and Dalus, whose ancestors had fled from then East Pakistan in the 1960s. Pratima Biswas, 30, a Bengali, was among the 19 lakh people not in the NRC released on August 31, though her parents, siblings, three children and husband, who works as a daily wage, are in. Her neighbour Saraswati Hajong, 36, is also out, unlike her two sisters, husband, mother-in-law and two sons. Says Biswas, with a wry smile, “We women often joke amongst ourselves that we might be one day be taken to the detention camp next door... We have to fight our case at an FT now, and fight we will. How dare they call us *bideshis* (foreigners)?”

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A PRE-CENSUS ENUMERATOR



Counting 135,00,00,000

Process has begun for world’s largest head-count — India’s decennial Census. Armed with a mobile app and 36 questions, as the foot-soldiers try to iron out wrinkles, suspicious respondents the biggest hurdle

AMITAVA CHAKRABORTY

THE LATEST estimate by the United Nations puts India’s population at 135 crore, catching up to China as the world’s most populous country. In his Independence Day speech, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called the “population explosion” a matter of urgent concern. Against this backdrop, India has begun preparations for what is one of the world’s largest head-count exercises — its decennial Census. Between February 9 and 28, 2021, India will count all its people. But so to ensure that there are no hiccups, one-and-a-half years ahead of it, a pre-census began last month. The August 12-September 30 exercise is being conducted at select spots in all the states and Union territories. One of those enlisted for it is Naveen Shokeen, 31, a Computer Science teacher at Government Boys’ Senior Secondary School (GBSSS) in Ghummanhera, a village on the Delhi-Haryana border. Around 2.30 pm, his school duty having come to an end, Shokeen is standing in the room of Vice-Principal/Headmaster Prem Kumar Jha, the designated “charge-officer” of the pre-test, waiting for instructions. Shokeen hasn’t had lunch, and decides against a quick bite. Shokeen along with seven teachers of GBSSS, Ghummanhera, and four from a neighbouring public girls’ school, will today collect ‘House Listing (HL)’ data across 10 Census blocks of the Ghummanhera village. The data will include information on types of houses as well as the facilities they have, like LPG connection, dish antenna etc. A Census official says Ghummanhera was an obvious choice as it has “10 blocks as well as slum areas”, as required by the guidelines. In Delhi, the trial run is also being conducted in all the 67 Census blocks of



(Top) Shrikrishna Sharma, left, during pre-test in Vikaspuri; (above) Naveen Shokeen on his round. Amitava Chakraborty

Vikaspuri, a residential locality in North Delhi, as the guidelines also call for an “urban” block. Here the pre-test is being carried out by teachers of GBSSS, Vikaspuri. It’s mostly principals who pick the teachers for Census duty, and the latter get a remuneration for the work. After the briefing by Jha, Shokeen hurries to Ghummanhera, just 200 metres away. As he enters a three-storey house, one of the few such buildings in the area, Shokeen says, “I have finished surveying most of the houses allotted to me. Only those found locked during the survey are left.” As a resident opens the door, Shokeen flashes his Census identity card. “*Janaganana vibhag se aye hain. Aapke makaan ke baarey mein jaankari chahiye* (I have come from the Census Department. I want information about your house),” he says. Shokeen has a list of 34 questions, includ-

ing on the construction material of the house, and its water and energy sources. He notes the answers down in a voluminous booklet. Most of the questions have remained the same over the decade. The one major change this year is the development of a mobile application that enumerators like Shokeen are expected to use to note the details. More than 90 per cent of the enumerators for the pre-test have registered for data collection through their own mobile devices. However, Shokeen says he prefers taking down the answers in the booklet provided by the Census Department, and uploading them later. One of his fears is the leak of personal information of a respondent. However, he admits the duplication slows down the process. Harjit Singh Mendiratta, a ‘Master Trainer’ with the Directorate of Census Operations, who has been training teachers at GBSSS Ghummanhera, admits the teething problems with the app. “The pre-test helps us get a sense of the difficulties we might face,” he says. “When we plan the Census, we know which blocks could end up taking more time. Secondly, it helps us categorise a property as *kachcha*, *pucca*, *jhuggi*, residential, non-residential, etc.” After the pre-test on collection of House Listing data gets over on September 4, a trial of the Population Enumeration (PE) basics would be conducted between September 10 and September 30. The PE is a more elaborate exercise as it involves collecting detailed information of each family member. Detailing the problems they face, Jha says, “Some houses are locked whenever we visit them during the day. As a result, we have to visit early in the morning. Often we have to take the help of neighbours and local leaders as respondents refuse to give information.” In the evening, even as Shokeen is nearing the end of his rounds, over at Vikaspuri, 36-year-old Srikrishna Sharma, a Sanskrit teacher at GBSSS, is getting ready to begin his

Tired, Sharma says he will keep it short. “The density of houses as well as people is much higher in urban pockets. So we take more time to cover a specific area,” a perspiring Sharma says, climbing up a flight of stairs in a DDA building in Vikaspuri’s JG block. Plus Sharma faces the same problems as Shokeen. “Urban households mostly have children at home in the afternoon. If someone is below 18 years, we cannot note their response. But often the adults too behave like children.” At such times, having ‘Master Trainers’ around, like S K Sood and Pramod Kumar today, helps. Sharma is flanked by both as he rings the bell to a second-floor flat. As the woman who answers looks uncertain about the purpose of his visit, Sood and Kumar, with ‘Ministry of Home Affairs’ identity cards hanging around their necks, weigh in. Sharma wastes no time, and opens the booklet instead of the mobile to take down answers. Sharma has a different reason for not using the app. “I realised that the moment I took out my phone, people became apprehensive and stopped answering. Somehow, people don’t trust phones... The booklet appears to be much more authentic to them.” Sharma next moves to the adjacent flat. The woman who answers speaks through a mesh door, and ignoring Sharma’s pleadings, slams the door. Sighs Sharma, “People refuse to answer because of the lack of awareness. The government must educate people on the importance of the Census, pre-test... Many people tell us they have not seen any advertisement or read news reports on the same.” It takes Sharma about an hour to go through just three flats in the building. Says a senior Census officer acquainted with the survey, “I have learnt that both the rich and poor don’t want to share personal details. The poor because they don’t care. And the rich because they are concerned their personal information might be stolen.”

Looking for Cong in Chanasma

BJP claims all voters in this Gujarat town are now its members. Congress protests, feebly




Some Cong supporters before the Executive Magistrate’s office. Javed Raja

PARIMAL DABHI


Sitting at his office in Chanasma GIDC (Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation) zone, Rajul Patel (52) is holding meetings with local Congress workers. Amidst dwindling Congress numbers in this BJP bastion, his is a difficult job — rendered even more arduous since national BJP working president J P Nadda declared recently that all registered voters in Chanasma had enrolled as primary members of the saffron party. That is 10,600 people. While Nadda’s claim of 100 per cent enrolment is most certainly an exaggeration, Patel, the Congress’s Chanasma tehsil president, knows he has little to be happy about. The recent entrants to the BJP include district Congress president Praful Vyas, who crossed over with 50 supporters around two months ago. Chanasma used to be part of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s home district Mehsana, but now falls under Patan. Dominated by Patidars, followed by Dalits and Thakors, the town, with a population of around 16,000, was declared a municipality in 1996. However, since the declaration, the Congress has only once fought the municipal elections on its own symbol, in February 2016. It won two seats, against 22 for the BJP. “The BJP’s claim of all registered voters having enrolled as its party members is completely baseless. However, I must admit that the Congress presence in the town is poor. For example, when the Congress decided to field candidates for the municipal polls in February 2016, we found it difficult to even find 24 nominees. We had to personally approach people and assure them that we will help them out during campaigning,” says Patel. The 52-year-old, who has been with the Congress since 30 years, reasons, “Chanasma is traditionally a BJP bastion, the RSS has a strong presence here. For more than 25 years, the BJP has been in power in Gujarat. So people join the party if they have electoral ambition... Only those who strongly believe in the ideology of the Congress join or stay in the party.” Standing in front of the local Executive Magistrate’s office in the Mamlatdar Office Area, a prominent landmark in the town, Patel hails down Congress workers Varun Vyas, Nikunj Dave, Ramesh Desai and Dr Viram Oza to show that Nadda isn’t right in clubbing all Chanasma voters as BJP supporters. “Meet these people, they are our

men. They are working to make the Congress strong here,” he says. Agrees Vyas, a 35-year-old farmer, “In the recent Lok Sabha elections, the Congress candidate (Jagdish Thakor) got around 2,500 votes out of the 7,000-odd cast in the 14 booths of Chanasma. The BJP candidate (Bharatsinh Dabhi) received about 4,500 votes. Does this not prove that we have a presence here?” However, even he admits that the party’s local leadership is finding it extremely difficult to keep up the morale of workers and supporters. “We keep meeting and asking people about their needs. At the same time, we also stay firm against any attempt by the BJP to lure our workers,” he says. Oza, 74, believes that it is an uphill battle given the funds crunch ailing the Congress not just in Chanasma but across the country. “Unlike the Congress, the BJP helps its workers financially. In the absence of such a system, there is lack of discipline and consistency among workers.” He adds that committed senior members like him have helped the Congress’s Chanasma unit even financially to sustain the party’s organisational structure and keep it relevant. “To keep the organisation vibrant, we motivate young workers to conduct programmes in the town,” Oza says. Still, the Congress held its last public meeting in Chanasma way back during the Lok Sabha polls, when senior party leader Siddharth Patel addressed a gathering. Satish Parmar (55), an LIC agent, wishes the Congress would raise problems of Dalits like himself, pointing out that the community has traditionally been a supporter of the party. “There are hygiene-related issues in our locality. The gutters overflow during the monsoons. The Congress should publicly flag such issues. I also want the party to raise the issue of atrocities against Dalits in various parts of the country.” Gujarat Pradesh Congress Committee leader and Patan district in-charge Kirtisinh Zala insists they are talking about the problems of the people, and that the situation in Chanasma is changing. “The town is dominated by Patidars, who have been loyal to the BJP. But we are drawing people’s attention to issues such as unemployment and economic slowdown,” he says. Meanwhile, Patel talks of BJP workers approaching him, “regularly”, with offers to join the saffron party. That might definitely mean the end of the Congress in Chanasma, he says. “By getting me and my supporters, they want to wipe off the Congress here.”



SAEED AKHTAR MIRZA

I AM AT Mumbai airport waiting to take my flight to Ahmedabad. Since I have arrived very early I settle down and begin reading a book that I have brought along. As I read, I hear a voice call out my name. "Excuse me, are you Mr Saeed Mirza?" I look up to see a tall young man staring down at me enquiringly. As he adjusts the backpack over his grey T-shirt I notice he has a kind of gaunt face and long curly hair. I am surprised by the seriousness of his face... it seems strange on a man so obviously young. I also notice he is wearing slacks that are an incredible electric blue. As I try to take in all this information about the man, his voice interrupts my thoughts. "Are you?" he asks again and this time I recover and I nod. The young man breaks into a wide smile which lightens up his serious face and I smile too. "Sir, I am a big fan of yours... I have seen most of your films... some documentaries, one of your travelogues across India... and I have even read two of your books..."



TAVLEEN SINGH

Hindutva in modern India

ON THE day that we sought to become the fourth country in the world to land a spacecraft on the moon it depressed me hugely to read this story about cows in a Mumbai newspaper. "Breeding female cows will help end lynching: Giriraj", said the headline. The story that followed said the Minister for Animal Husbandry, Giriraj Singh, told reporters that the Government of India was working on a scheme to artificially inseminate cows to ensure that mostly female calves were born. The minister believes this will persuade cattle farmers to stop abandoning their animals and this will help reduce lynchings. Does the Minister of Animal Husbandry not know that it is not on account of stray cattle that Muslims and Dalits have been lynched with disturbing frequency in recent years?

Muslim dairy farmers have been attacked while transporting their own cows, not stray cattle. And, Dalits have been attacked when caught skinning dead cows to provide raw material to leather, pharmaceutical and related industries. The lynching epidemic has forced dairy farmers to abandon old cows instead of selling them for slaughter, and it is this that has caused numbers of stray cattle to grow alarmingly. In states like Uttar Pradesh, they now roam in packs and have become feral. An old lady was killed by a cow recently and the video of this killing was uploaded. In states across northern India gangs of wild cows have started ravaging crops. The menace is so serious that farmers are forced to waste their meagre earnings on fencing their fields. What really depressed me about the minister's comments was that they reminded me that this obsession with protecting cows has caused primitive hatreds and hideous violence to rise to the surface in our dear motherland. And, this makes a very bad fit with our lunar dreams.

In this column I have often blamed cow vigilantism on Hindutva. I was wrong. Last week, I read two biographies of the father of Hindutva, Vinayak Savarkar, and discovered that one of the things he disapproved of totally was cow worship. Let me use Savarkar's own words as quoted by Vikram Sampath in his biography. "The symbol of Hindutva is not the cow but the man-lion or Narasimha... considering the cow to be divine and worshipping her has rendered the entire Hindu nation docile like the cow."


From the two biographies I read of the revolutionary that the Congress party erased from our history books, I discovered that I was completely wrong about Hindutva. Instead of being an ideology akin to Nazism, as the prime minister of our neighbouring Islamic Republic believes, it is an ideology of Hindu reform. Savarkar rejects the caste system and makes a serious case for Hindus to respect science and modern technology. He is scathing not just about Gandhiji's attempts to blame the Bihar earthquake on untouchability but also about the Shankaracharya saying that it happened because of attempts to end the caste system.

Having grown up believing that Hindutva was a dangerous, divisive ideology, I find myself surprised at how important an idea it could be for our times. Savarkar was no fan of the RSS but since the BJP's motherhood has huge influence in today's India, it is my sincere hope that Mohan Bhagwat finds time to read the two biographies I just finished reading. He may discover that what India needs to build on is the very enlightened view of Hindutva that Savarkar evolved in the long years he spent in prison. On days of dark despair in his tiny cell in Port Blair's notorious Cellular Jail, he used thorns and whatever else he could find to write his thoughts on the walls. He was denied books, paper and ink and spent months in solitary confinement.

It is true that he was unsympathetic to Muslims, but he would have disapproved of them being killed on the excuse of saving cows. He would have approved proudly of India trying to enter her name in the small list of countries which have dared to explore the unknown frontiers of outer space. At the risk of invoking the wrath of secular trolls, I am going to say that I believe his ideas of modernity and cultivating the scientific spirit make him more relevant today than Gandhiji.

The Mahatma was a very great man, so I speak with respect, but it is hard not to admit that some of his ideas were obscurantist to the point of being dangerous. Had they been acted upon, India would today have been pacifist enough to be fully vulnerable once more to be invaded by people with only contempt for her ancient heritage, her wise religions and her vast contribution to civilisation. Even as we keep our eyes on the moon this week, we must not take them too far away from the Islamic Republic next door.

Follow Tavleen Singh on Twitter @tavleen_singh



SHALINI LANGER

Baby who lived, and baby who should have

IT'S BEEN some days since I read Aieman's story. Every hour, I have grappled with myself on what I would tell the 26-year-old sister of my colleague in Srinagar, who lost her unborn baby amidst the Kashmir lockdown. Nothing I tell her would be enough, but not telling her anything... whose purpose does that serve?

So, here, let me tell her a story, about another time, another baby, another city — hoping that if and when she reads it, she knows that her baby is grieved, that he won't be forgotten.

December 22, 2000, was a sunny day, unusual for a winter that was about to take a turn for the worse. I had one of my regular appointments with my gynaecologist. The baby wasn't due for another 20 days or so, and I hoped to use the maternity break to catch up on reading and to finish a pair of woollen booties — both tasks I had enthusiastically decided I was up to.

There was some bad news though. My placenta had started dying up, and the doctor advised a week's hospitalisation. The pregnancy wouldn't last full term, she predicted, and joked that maybe I would have a millennium baby, right on New Year. I returned home, packed a bag, gave a lingering look to the chest of drawers I had readied for the baby — with everything Dettol-sanitised — and headed to the hospital.

It was sometime around 8 pm that the nurse walked in for her routine pre-lights out round. The hospital was retiring for the night — the buzz of the corridors had died down, rendering the phones ringing at periodic intervals ominous, and the antiseptic air lay heavy — when she placed a cone-shaped object upside down over my stomach. It was much like those hearing pieces that amateur spies fashion out of glasses to eavesdrop. She listened once, then twice, moved the thing around, and listened more intently. I learnt much later that the simple thing was a Pinard Horn, a stethoscope to hear foetal heartbeat.

Within minutes, I was rushed to a pre-labour room where they told me they couldn't hear the baby's heartbeat and showed me a graph sheet with zig-zag lines of the kind seen in Bollywood hospital scenes. As I tried to understand what that meant, my gynaecologist/obstetrician rushed in. She is a beautiful woman, the red of her *bindi* standing out against the silver grey of her hair, the red of her bangles and the Punjabi *parandi* in her hair striking against the white of her doctor's coat, and her diminutive size belying the authority with which she commandeers a room. For the first time, I saw her tousled, missing the bangles, the *parandi*.

She said they would have to immediately do a Caesarean. The rest of what followed is a daze — the preparation for the operation, transfer to the OT, seeing my family blurred without my glasses and stupidly beaming at them (I can still feel that smile), confident completely in my doctor's abilities, and breaking into a teary laugh as the doctor pronounced it was a boy, a very tiny premature boy, but healthy. And he had all 10 fingers and all 10 toes. Somehow that detail, in all the craziness of that day, seemed to matter.

I would learn later that for my 2.1-kg son, the day was not over yet. He struggled to breathe, and for a while, there was panic that the hospital didn't have a ventilator in its neo-natal unit. Ultimately it turned out okay, and 18 years later, the baby who scarily fit into the crook of my arm is now that same length taller than me.

What if I wasn't in the Capital? What if the phones didn't work — this was still a time when very few had mobiles? What if my family couldn't reach because there were "restrictions" outside? What if the doctor couldn't be contacted? What if, in short, I was in Aieman's shoes?


On just another "normal" day, in just another "normal" city, Aieman went into hospital for her delivery. Sometime during the day, her baby developed trouble breathing and died even as the senior doctor couldn't be reached. Her brother spent the next several hours running around Srinagar trying to inform family members of the same.

But would I dare put this question to Aieman? For, don't I dread what she would say in reply? The 26-year-old, the same age as I was in 2000, waiting for her first child with as much anticipation, with a wardrobe put together as lovingly, would be right in turning around and asking me: whose shoes am I really in?

To Aieman, I am the biggest mass of social media users in the world who hasn't blinked an eye over 7 million men, women and children blocked out from the world now for a month. To Aieman, I am the voter in the world's biggest democracy whose eyes won't see and ears won't hear. To Aieman, I am the mother from one of those parent WhatsApp groups who fuss over the smallest details of their children, but who never cried over hers. To Aieman, I am the silent audience applauding the government's semantics over Pakistan, while words like normalcy, detention, curfew lose meaning.

One day, when she can, and she must, Aieman will ask that question. Would we have an answer?

shalini.langer@expressindia.com



BALBIR MADHOPURI
ਬਲਬੀਰ ਮਾਧੋਪੁਰੀ

GAINED IN TRANSLATION

COMPOSED BY Guru Ravidas, 40 poems set to 16 *ragas* are a part of the Guru Granth Sahib. Many verses written by him are available outside of it, and imbued with the idea of god and *nirgun* (formless) *darshan*. His *bani* (poetic compositions), a powerful voice against untouchability, caste and social injustice, has long been a source of ratiocination for the downtrodden to drive social change. In his attempt to sensitise people through his verses, Ravidas held caste discrimination as a mental disease at the root of all social strife. He also held forth the idea of one god as the creator of the universe.


Jaat-paat ke pher mah urjhai rahe sabh log/ Mannukhta ku khat hai Ravidas jat ka rog (Everyone is trapped in the caste-system/ Ravidas, humanity is being eaten up by the disease called caste) and; *Ravidas ek Braham ka hoye rahyo sagal pasaar/ Ek mat sab ghat sirjai eike sab kou sarjanhar* (All are made from the same clay, by the same creator).

In fact, Guru Ravidas, along with his contemporaries, launched a campaign using *satsangs* for a more equal society. Kabir and other saint-poets joined him. He gave a voice to the voiceless and made weavers, cobblers, barbers, butchers, washermen and others from the artisan community part of this wave. Sant Ravidas used language that avoided hyperbole and was easily understood by the common folk. This is the reason his poetry became a weapon in the fight for equality. His people-friendly verses like *Man changa tan kathoti vich Ganga* (If the mind is pure, then Ganga flows in the small earthen pot) is part of lexicon.

As he took his writings to the far corners of a multi-religious country, Guru Ravidas told people to see Ram and Rahim, Krishna and Karim as one. He put forth his views about Hindu-Muslim unity.

Mandir Masjid duo ek hai, eh ma antar nahi/ Ravidas Ram-Rehman ka jhagra koyi nahi (The temple and the mosque are one. There is no difference between the two. Ravidas says that there is no dispute between Ram and Rehman.)

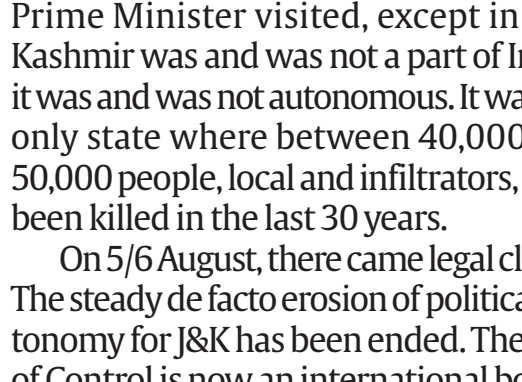
Six centuries ago, Guru Ravidas held in his heart a pious desire to create a society where no one faced discrimination on the basis of caste, gender, social and economic status; where people would pay no taxes and enjoy the freedom to freely migrate to the places of their choice. He envisioned a society with people living in harmony with-



MEGHNAD DESAI

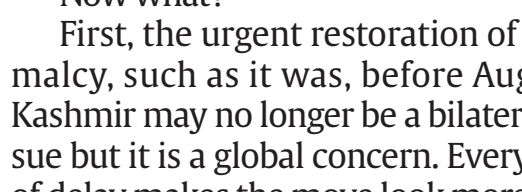
OUT OF MY MIND

I WAS 13 at the time. In our poky *sarkari* flat in Bombay, my father was having a furious, noisy argument with my two maternal uncles. The neighbours were worried. They thought it was a property quarrel which would end up in violence. Alas, we did not have property to quarrel over. The dispute was about Kashmir. Jawaharlal Nehru had just sacked Sheikh Abdullah, put him under house arrest




Prime Minister

visited, except in J&K. Kashmir was and was not a part of India; it was and was not autonomous. It was the only state where between 40,000 and 50,000 people, local and infiltrators, have been killed in the last 30 years.



On 5/6 August

there came legal clarity. The steady de facto erosion of political autonomy for J&K has been ended. The Line of Control is now an international border between India and Pakistan. The partition of India is at long last complete.



Now what?

First, the urgent restoration of normalcy, such as it was, before August. Kashmir may no longer be a bilateral issue but it is a global concern. Every day of delay makes the move look more sinister both in Kashmir and around the world. Relax the curfew and face the riots. There is no point in waiting for the day when the curfew can be relaxed without angry reactions. The anger in Kashmir Valley has a long history. To expect it to die due to a constitutional change would be a delusion. It would require concrete policy changes in economic and social sectors to heal the wounds of the past 65 years.

The Prime Minister

has promised a bright future. Integration of the region into India should prove the key to bringing the standard and quality of living in J&K rapidly up to the level in rest of India in terms of income as well as human development, especially for women.

epaper.indianexpress.com

New Delhi

TOP OF THE WORLD



Pope Francis on Saturday, AP

MADAGASCAR

‘Deforestation must be seen as global threat’

Antanarivo: Pope Francis denounced the illegal logging and exploitation of Madagascar’s unique natural resources Saturday as he opened a visit to the Indian Ocean nation with a plea for the government to fight the corruption that is ravaging the island’s environment and keeping its people in “inhumane poverty”. “The deterioration of that biodiversity compromises the future of the country and of the earth, our common home,” Francis warned.

US

Wikipedia partly offline after ‘malicious attack’

Washington: Popular on-line reference website Wikipedia went down in several countries after the website was targeted by what it described as a “malicious attack”. The server of the Wikimedia Foundation, which hosts the site, suffered a “massive” Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack, the organisation’s German account said in a tweet late Friday. In a separate statement the Wikimedia Foundation said the attack on the encyclopedia was “ongoing” and teams were working to restore access.

YEMEN

Medics say 130 bodies pulled after airstrike

Cairo: Yemeni medics said Saturday they have pulled at least 130 bodies from the rubble of a rebel-run detention center that was hit earlier this month by Saudi-led coalition airstrikes in the country’s southwest. The Saudi-led coalition, which has fought the Iran-backed Houthis since 2015, has faced international criticism for airstrikes that have hit schools, hospitals and wedding parties. A spokesman for the Yemeni Red Crescent said the death toll has yet to be confirmed as search efforts are ongoing for more bodies at the site.

WILL GIVE U.N. INSPECTORS ACCESS TO N-SITES: IRAN

Tehran fires up advanced centrifuges in latest nuclear step, US says no surprise

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA TEHRAN, SEPTEMBER 7

IRAN SAID Saturday it has fired up advanced centrifuges to boost its enriched uranium stockpiles, in the latest scaling back of commitments under a crumbling 2015 nuclear deal. The country’s Atomic Energy Organisation said, however, that it would honour commitments to give UN inspectors access to monitor its nuclear sites. Three European countries — Britain, France and Germany — have been engaged in talks to try to rescue the 2015 deal that gave Iran relief from sanctions in return for curbs on its nuclear programme.

Tensions have been escalating between Iran and the United States since May last year when President Donald Trump pulled out of the accord and began reimposing sanctions that have crippled its economy.

The arch-foes were on the cusp of confrontation in June when Iran downed a US drone and Trump ordered retaliatory strikes before cancelling them at the last minute.

On Saturday, Iran’s Atomic Energy Organisation said it had activated 20 IR-4 and 20 IR-6



Behrouz Kamalvandi, spokesman for the Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran at a press meet on Saturday, Reuters

centrifuges as its latest step back in rolling back its commitments.

“The centrifuge machines, as they are engaged in research and development, will help with increasing the stockpile,” said the agency’s spokesman, Behrouz Kamalvandi. “The capacity of these machines is many times more than the previous machines. This started as of yesterday (Friday),” he said.

Under the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), Iran was allowed to enrich uranium using only first-gen-

eration — or IR-1 — centrifuges.

US Defence Secretary Mark Esper said he was “not surprised that Iran has announced that it’s going to violate the JCPOA”.

“It’s no surprise that the Iranians are going to pursue what the Iranians have always intended to pursue,” he said in Paris.

Kamalvandi said Iran would allow the International Atomic Energy Agency to continue monitoring its nuclear programme, as it has done under the 2015 accord.

Russia, Ukraine swap prisoners in step to thaw ties

ANTON ZVEREV & NATALIA ZINETS MOSCOW/KIEV, SEPTEMBER 7

RUSSIA AND Ukraine carried out a long-awaited prisoner swap on Saturday in a step that could thaw a deep freeze in relations since Moscow’s annexation of the Crimea region in 2014.

While the unfolding exchange could help rebuild confidence between Moscow and Kiev and allow them to start negotiating seriously on other issues, any road to a full rapprochement is likely to be long and complex.

On Saturday a Russian aircraft carrying freed Russian prisoners from Kiev landed in Moscow while a Ukrainian plane with released Ukrainian prisoners aboard touched down in Kiev, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy hugged the freed Ukrainians while Russia’s Rossiya 24 TV showed Russian prisoners disembarking the plane in Moscow. Zelenskyy said at Kiev airport the swap was part of his deal with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

He said all steps had to be taken “to finish this horrible war,” referring to the five-year-old conflict with pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine.

The swap was carried out on a “35-to-35” basis, Interfax news agency quoted Russian human rights commissioner Tatyana Moskalkova as saying. “Ukraine has handed out 35 people to Russia, we handed out the same number to Ukraine,” she said. REUTERS



At Kiev, Saturday, Reuters

EXPLAINED Differences remain

RUSSIA AND Ukraine have many unresolved issues, most significantly the former’s annexation of Crimea in 2014. However, the prisoner exchange could be the first step towards a thaw.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy have sent positive signals about the exchange, as have other world leaders. Both countries indicate that they view the swap as a gateway to talks, though it remains to be seen how this is taken forward.

Trump considers plan for drastic cut in refugees allowed to enter US

JULIE HIRSCHFELD DAVIS & MICHAEL D SHEAR WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 7

THE WHITE House is considering a plan that would effectively bar refugees from most parts of the world from resettling in the United States by cutting back the decades-old program that admits tens of thousands of people each year who are fleeing war, persecution and famine, according to current and former administration officials.

In meetings over the past several weeks, one top administration official has proposed ze-



At a Rohingya refugee camp in Bangladesh. NYT/file

roing out the program altogether, while leaving the president with the ability to admit

refugees in an emergency. Another option that top officials are weighing would cut refugee

ISRAELI TROOPS KILL TWO TEENS IN GAZA



At the funeral of a 17-year-old boy, killed by Israeli forces, in Gaza on Saturday. Reuters

admissions by half or more, to 10,000 to 15,000 people, but reserve most of those spots for refugees from a few hand-picked countries or groups with special status, such as Iraqis and Afghans who work alongside American troops, diplomats and intelligence operatives abroad.

The issue is expected to come to a head on Tuesday, when the White House plans to convene a high-level meeting in the Situation Room to discuss at what number President Donald Trump should set the annual, presidentially determined ceiling on refugee admissions for the coming year. NYT

■ Israeli forces shot and killed two Palestinian teenagers including a 14-year-old during protests along the Gaza-Israel border on Friday, Palestinian health officials said

■ Officials named the dead as Khaled Al-Rabai, 14, and Ali Al-Ashqar, 17. Seventy protesters were wounded, 38 of them by live fire, medical officials said

■ A few hours later five projectiles were launched from the Gaza Strip toward Israel, the Israeli military confirmed. Israel responded with tank and air strikes on a number of Hamas military targets in the northern Gaza Strip, an Israeli military spokesman said

SPYMASTER LE CARRE SLAMS BORIS IN 25TH NOVEL

British master spy novelist John le Carre’s 25th book condemns ‘pig-ignorant’ Boris Johnson and the ‘lunacy’ of Brexit, as per an excerpt in the Guardian newspaper. ‘Agent Running in the Field’ tells the tale of Nat, a 47-year-old MI5 member with doubts of Britain’s fate. Johnson is still foreign secretary in the book. ‘A minority Tory cabinet of tenth-raters. A pig-ignorant foreign secretary who I’m supposed to be serving. Labour no better. The sheer bloody lunacy of Brexit,’ Nat tells his daughter

China, Pak air forces hold joint training

SOWMIYA ASHOK BEIJING, SEPTEMBER 7

THE CHINESE and Pakistani air forces held their joint training, ‘Shaheen (Eagle) VIII’, at an unspecified location in northwestern China on Friday, adopting a “back-to-back systematic confrontation” since neither were aware of the other’s movements.

The joint training, which ran for a fortnight, is the eighth of its kind between the two countries, Chinese news agency Xinhua reported. The agency also quoted sources saying “the annual joint training does not target any third party, and aims to improve training standards of the two air forces through mutual learning”.

According to Chinese news site thepaper.cn, the joint training was the “first to achieve a full-process confrontation” and said it was the “largest number of Chinese and foreign air force joint training personnel” and was fully equipped and was the “most complete combat unit.”

Fifty aircraft from both sides are reported to have participated, as per reports.

CMO also quoted military observer Senior Colonel Du Wenlong, who noted that the quality of the training this time was considerably boosted.

“Both sides dispatched their typical, classical and leading equipment, indicating their confidence and the great importance they have attached to the joint training. Carrying out realistic operations with the best equipment, the two sides aimed at better confrontation performance and greater capability improvement,” he was quoted as saying.

AFGHANISTAN

Taliban kidnap six journalists

REUTERS KABUL, SEPTEMBER 7

TALIBAN KIDNAPPED six Afghan journalists working for private and government media organisations in eastern Pakтия province, government officials and Taliban said on Saturday.

The reporters, working for radio and TV news companies that broadcast news in the Pashto and Dari languages, were abducted while travelling together from neighbouring Paktika province to Paktia to attend a media workshop on Friday.

“We are trying to negotiate their release with the Taliban,” said Abdullah Hasrat, a spokesman for Paktia’s governor.

A Taliban spokesman confirmed the abduction of six journalists by their fighters but said they will be released soon.

“Yes, our mujahideens (fighters) have mistakenly kidnapped them,” said Zabihullah Mujahid, a spokesman for the hardline insurgent group.

“Right now mobile services are not working, but they will be released as soon as we establish contact with the local commander,” he said.

Blurring line between man and beast, Jallikattu makes fine debut



EXPRESS AT TIFF 2019

SHUBHRA GUPTA TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 7

IT’S BEEN a five-film, sandpaper-eyes-exhausting-yet-fulfilling-day, and yes, it’s odious to compare, but I’m thrilled to report that Lijo Jose Pellissery’s new film Jallikattu is the clear winner: its world premiere, for which the director, his cast and crew are

present, is a smash-hit.

It’s one of those films where nothing much happens and yet everything happens. A water buffalo has run amok in a tiny Kerala village, and in the 96-minute run time, we see warring residents, greedy outsiders, wise old coots, nosey neighbours, men and women involved in that oldest dance of lust and stealth, displaying all the emotions known to humans, from pettiness to grand gestures and everything in between.

If you’ve seen Pellissery’s Angamaly Diaries (2017) and Ee Ma Yau (2018), you will be familiar with the way the director orchestrates chaos. The strands he plays with simmer away at a slow burn till there comes a

crescendo, and you are left gasping. Through the immersive method of his filming, he makes sure the viewer is both observer and participant, and we emerge from that experience knowing more and feeling more.

In Jallikattu, that feeling is intensified. The control Pellissery displays as the film races along, showing us the buffalo crashing through built-inhabitations and the surrounding forests, is evident. Through it we see what the film is aiming at — a galloping, raging mass of masculinity where being a man is equated with how you can kill and subjugate and snarl — and even more importantly, amongst men and beasts, who, really, is bestial? Amongst the men chasing



the buffalo, and often their own tail, is the good-looking Antony

Varghese, who made his debut in Angamaly Diaries, and

Chemban Jose, both of whom were present on stage, with Santhya Balachandran, resplendent in a kasavu sari. They clean up well, these actors, because in the film they are unrecognisable, hidden under layers of fear, uncontrolled greed and grime they collect during the chase, crashing through bushes and ambushing their own.

Jallikattu is exhilarating, and I’m still all shook up, a few hours after the standing-ovation gala screening. The other Indian films at TIFF — Shonali Bose’s The Sky Is Pink, Geetu Mohandas’s Moothon, and Gitanjali Rao’s Bombay Rose — have a tough act to follow.

The other film I really liked was Sarah Gavron’s Rocks, all

about a young woman struggling to cope with the most challenging circumstances without once asking us to feel sorry for her. In Gavron’s debut 2007 Brick Lane (based on a novel of the same name by Monica Ali), you could see how comfortable this British director was portraying the lives of ‘people of colour’: Satish Kaushik, whom we usually see playing the fool in Bollywood movies, puts in a career-best performance here as a middle-aged trying to hack a life, and a young wife.

Olushola, 15, better known as Rocks (Bukky Bukray) and her group of friends are clearly children of immigrants, but are equally clearly trying to create a space for themselves in a coun-

try they consider their own — much more so than their parents. When we first see them, they could be a group of girls hanging, joshing, having fun, but soon the film turns dark when Rocks comes home to a mother who has absconded, leaving behind her seven-year-old brother, a slim envelope with some cash and a hastily scrawled ‘sorry’.

Gavron films with authenticity and empathy. We see this bunch of young women as they see themselves — dealing with teenage insecurities and other messy details of home and school. The end credits tell us that the cast of non-professionals helped create their personas. That, right there, is why you believe.

Classifieds

PERSONAL

We, Abdul Wahab S/o Mohd. Yusuf & Sufeda Begum W/o Abdul Wahab R/O-313/76A, Tulsī-Nagar, Inderlok, Near Bilal Masjid, School-Road, Delhi-110035. have changed my minor daughter's name Ariba Khatoun to Ariba Khan. 0040511546-2

It is for general information that I, Kamlesh Rani W/o Raj Mohan R/O-209 Gajju Katra, Farsh Bazar, Shahdara Delhi-110032, inform that my husband name has been wrongly written as Komal. Raj Mohan Pushya in my minor son Krishna Pushya (13-Years) School Leaving Certificate, School Record. The actual name of my, my husband are Kamlesh Rani, Raj Mohan respectively which may be amended accordingly. 0040511524-3

I, Simmi Rehal W/o Ranjit Singh Juttia R/O-A-27A, Mansarovar Garden Ramesh Nagar, Delhi- have changed to my name Simran Kaur Juttia for all Purposes 0040511562-6

I, Shivpal Singh resident of H.No.610E, Gali.No.2, Raj Nagar, Part-1, Palam Colony, New Delhi-110045, have changed my son's name from JAYDEEP SINGH to MANDEEP SINGH, vide affidavit/c Stamp certificate No.IN-DL143776628129345R dated 22 Aug. 19. Here after in all records deed and writing and in all proceedings dealing with transaction private as well as under all occasions what so ever be known as MANDEEP SINGH. 0040511562-9

I, Sandeep Singh S/o Ravinder Singh R/O-D-8/465, Dayalpur Delhi-94, inform that after remarriage to Vidhan's mother Ritv W/o Sumit Jain Vidhan shall hereafter be known as Vidhan S/o Sandeep Singh for all purposes. 0040511524-1

I, Nathuni Sahani, S/o-Gangay Sahani, R/O-41/4, Sanjay Nagar, Gulabi Bagh, Malka-Ganj, Delhi-7, that my name has been wrongly written as Anil Mukhia, in the school-record, of my minor daughter Karishma. The actual name of mine, is Nathuni Sahani. 0040511562-7

I, Dinesh Kumar Bansal S/o-Late Chhabil Chand Bansal R/O-A-1/42-43, Budh Vihar, Phase-1, New Delhi-110086, have changed my name to Dinesh Bansal for all future purposes. 0040511562-8

I, Tabassum W/O, Rais Ahmed, R/O-18-A, Ghafoor Nagar, Jamia Nagar, have changed my name to Tabassum Ahmed for all purposes. 0040511479-1

I, Sonu Goyal S/O Saijan Kumar Goyal R/O-Rz-12, Jain-Colony Part-3, Matiala, Uttam Nagar, Delhi-59, Have Changed My Name To Sonu Goyal. 0040511554-3

I, Sharvan Singh S/O Yudhvīr Singh H.No-84, Village-Madangir Delhi-110062. Have Changed My Minor Daughter Name From Vanshika To Vanshika Mahawal. 0040511524-10

I, Saroj S/o-Kanwar Singh Yadav, R/O-vill & post-Karoli, Distt-Rewari, Haryana-123303, changed my name from SAROJ to SAROJ YADAV vide-affidavit, dated-09/08/2019 0040511513-1

I, Samsan Siman S/O Stenly Siman R/O-P-4/851, SultanPuri, Delhi-86 Have Changed My Name To Samsan Simon. 0040511554-2

I, Shailender Pratap Singh R/O B-363, New Ashok Nagar, Delhi-110096 Have Changed My Name To Shailendra Pratap Singh. 0070673449-1

I, Sajeed Khan S/O Musharraf Ali R/O-710/A362, Street No-3, Chauhan Banger, New Seelam Pur, Delhi-110053, Changed My Name To Sajid Ali Khan. 0040511576-3

I, Sajan Kumar Goyal S/O Ved Prakash Goyal R/O-Rz-12, Jain-Colony Part-3, Matiala, Uttam-Nagar, Delhi-59, Have Changed My Name To Saijan Kumar Goyal. 0040511561-1

I, Ramjeet S/O-Ram Naresh, R/O-P-1/715 Sultanpuri, new Delhi-110086, have changed my name to Ramjeet Kumar for all purposes. 0040511576-2

I, Rajan Bisht S/O Sher Singh Bisht R/O WB-121, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092, Changed my name to Rajan Singh Bisht. 0040511576-1

I, Rachit Rawat S/O Gajendra Rawat, R/O-K-101D, Sheikh Sarai, Phase-2, New Delhi-110017, solemnly affirm that my father's name Gajendra S Rawat & Gajendra Rawat is one and the same. 0040511556-1

I, Neelu W/O Avinash Ahmad, R/O-C2c, Pocket-2, Flat No-6, 2nd Floor, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058, Changed My Name Mahima Bhalla. 0040511561-2

I, Nazmeen W/O Aftab Ahmad R/O-350, Street No-18, Jafraabad, New Seelampur Delhi-53 Have Changed My Name To Najma Begum. 0040511554-1

I, Narang S/o Sh. Baju R/O B-1/182, J.J. Colony, Raghubir Nagar, New Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Narain for all purposes. 0040511471-1

I, Parul Varshney W/O Sh. Krishna Gopal Varshney R/O-B-6/1106, Krishna Apra Gardens, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad-201014, have changed the name of my son Monik Varshney to Maunik Varshney, for all purposes. 0040511561-3

I, NO15691238P, L/nk Dolat Ram Poonia. 1 AFSR Delhi Cantt-110010. As Per My Office Record my wife Name was Abbreviated and / Wrongly Mentioned as Poonam Chaudhary whereas my wife correct Name is Poonam Choudhary. 0040511546-7

I, Nirupama W/O Bhanu Pratap Gautam R/O-F-10/18, 1st Floor, Model Town-2 Delhi-110009, Changed My Name To Nirupama Gautam. 0040511576-8

I, Manish Srivastava S/o Paras Ram R/O H.No.8614, Rattan Nagar, Karol Bagh Delhi-110005 have changed my name to Mainsh Srivastava for all purposes. 0040511356-10

I, Kinderjit Kaur W/O Harcharan Singh R/O-Village-Nadohar Tehsil Patil Tara Taran-143416 Punjab Have Changed My Name To Kinderjeet Kaur. 0040510964-6

I, Mohd Azhar Masoodi S/o Late I.A Masoodi R/O 389, Basti Hazrat Nizamuddin West, New Delhi-110013 have changed the name of my minor son from Mohd Aazir Masoodi to Mohd Ali Masoodi for all purposes. 0040511463-4

I, Maninder Kaur D/O S.Sawinder Singh W/O S.Palvinder Singh Sabharwal R/O H-454, Vikas Puri, New Delhi-110018 have changed my name to Jaspreet Kaur for all purposes. 0040511463-3

I, Jasmeet Singh S/O Mukesh Kumar R/O-63, 1th-Floor Sector-2, Old Mahabir Nagar, Tilak-Nagar, Delhi-110018. Have Changed My Name To Jasmeet Singh Raiyati. 0040511554-4

I, Himanshu S/O Late Sh. Ramesh Chander Lugani R/O 17/82, Geeta Colony, Delhi-110031 have changed my name to Himanshu Lugani for all purposes. 0040511463-1

I, Yash Mangal S/O Rajesh Kumar Aggarwal R/O-A-35 Vipul-World sector-48 Sohna-Road Gurgaon Haryana-122001. have changed my minor daughter name Vanshika Mangal to Vanshika Aggarwal. 0040511561-5

I, Rajesh Kumar Aggarwal S/O Bhagwan Das R/O-A-35 Vipul-World sector-48 Sohna-Road Gurgaon Haryana-122001. have changed my minor daughter name Vanshika Mangal to Vanshika Aggarwal. 0040511561-6

I, Hina Beum / Heena W/O Khalid Ateeq Khan H.No-334, Gali No-13, Zakir Nagar, New Delhi-110025, Changed My Name To Hina Khan. 0040511576-5

I, Deepali Sanjay Dattani D/O Sanjay Kumar Dattani R/O-B-1/27, Third-Floor, Police-Computer Society, Vasundhara-Enclave, Delhi-110096, Changed My Name To Deepali Dattani. 0040511576-6

I, Lalip Chadha W/O Late. Mohinder Singh Chadha R/O-45 New Rajdhani-Enclave Vikas-Margy Delhi-92. have changed my name to Dalip Kaur Chadha,, for all purposes. 0040511546-3

I, Chirag S/o Sanjeev Khatri r/o-210 Jatwara Sonipat have changed my name to Chirag Khatri for all purposes. 0040511513-3

I, Chander Kanta Bharti W/O Shri Raja Ram Bharti R/O-C-93, Sector-20, Noida distt. Gautam Budh Nagar Pin-201301 U.P. have changed my name to Chandra Kanta for future all purpose. 0040511483-1

I, Bitiya Koul Bhat W/O-Raj Nath Bhat R/O-63 Vidhut Nikunj-112 I.P-Extension Patparganj Delhi-110092. Changed My Name To Bitiya Kaul Bhat. 0040511524-7

I, Bhanu Pratap S/O-Bharat Prasad Gautam R/O-F-10/18, 1st Floor, Model Town-2 Delhi-110009, Changed My Name To Bhanu Pratap Gautam. 0040511576-7

I, Arjun S/O Subhash Singh R/O-A-46 Harijan Colony Sawan Park Ashok-Vihar-III Delhi-110052, changed my name to Arjun Singh permanently. 0040511524-5

I, Angashree W/O Swapna Sasmal R/O TG GH EME Delhi Cantt-110010 have changed my name to Angashree Sasmal. 0040511546-5

I, hitherto known as Yogendra Kumar S/O Ram Vir Singh Yadav residing at B-2/2, Sector-15, Rohini Delhi-110089, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Yogendra Kumar Yadav. 0040511554-5

I, Sunil S/O Bhoop Singh R/O M-93, G S Apprts, Sec-13, Rohini Delhi-85, have changed my name to Sunil Kumar. 0040511524-4

I, Romy Datta W/O B.L. Sharma, R/O Flat No.6, Kasturba Institution of Technology, Pitampura, Delhi have changed my name from Romy Datta to Kavita Sharma vide affidavit No. IN-DL46666630962535R Dt. 27-08-2019 before Notary Public Delhi (India). 0040511478-1

I, Rajesh Mangal S/O Bhagwan Das R/O-A-35 Vipul-World sector-48 Sohna-Road Gurgaon Haryana-122001. have changed my name Rajesh Kumar Aggarwal. 0040511561-4

I, Pitamber Lal @ Pitamber Lal Vaish S/O Late Sh. Babu Ram Vaish R/O 31, Top Floor, Vijay Block, Laxmi Nagar, Shakarpur, East Delhi, Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Pitamber Lal Vaish for all purposes. 0040511463-2

We, Sudesh Bajaj, Mahesh Bajaj S/o D.C. Bajaj R/O-8/14, East Punjabi Bagh, Delhi, have lost registered General Power, Attorneys, Agreement to Sell-24/4/1995, executed by Om Parkash unto Mahesh Bajaj and General Power Attorneys-24/4/1995 & 24/3/2001, Executed by Om Parkash and Sudarshana Kumari unto Sudesh Bajaj respectively, qua-C-8, Mayapuri Industrial Area, PH-II, New Delhi, if found, Contact at above address. 0040511460-1

I, Himanshu S/O-Satbeer, R/O-1909HBC, Sector-15, 10st my 10th-class, certificate passed from CBSE, appear from Hindu Sr.Secondary, School, New Court-Road, Sonipat, Year-2015, Roll.no-2187528, finder contact-8396049648 0040511513-2

It is notified for the information that my Original Qualifying Examination Marksheet of Main Secondary Examination of Year 2017, Roll No.8322947 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Name of Candidate: Anurag Kerketta S/O Andrius Kerketta, R/O 1190, R.K. Puram, Sector-7, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110022, Tel.9968444103 0040511469-1

Notice is here given that the share-certificate by Folio.Number-043185322, 041912928,032247733,075907508 ,of Reliance Industries-Limited, standing in the name of Anoop Jain, resident of B-98, Neeti-Bagh, South, Delhi, have been reported lost/stolen and that an application for, issue of duplicate-certificate in respect thereof has been made to society for, issue of duplicate-shares to whom objection, if any against issuance of such Duplicate-Shares certificates-should be made within-15-days from the date of publication of this notice. Share-certificate is not mortgaged or any loan taken against it. 0040511562-1

Notice is here given that the share certificate by Folio Number-TCW0001801, of Titan Company Ltd. standing in the name of C.S.R Karta resident of 546 Asian Village, Defence Colony, South Delhi have been reported lost/stolen and that an application for issue of duplicate certificate in respect thereof has been made to society for issue of duplicate shares to whom objection, if any against issuance of such Duplicate Shares certificates should be made within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. Share certificate is not mortgaged or any loan taken against it 0040511562-5

It is notified for the information that my original qualifying Marksheet of 4th Semester of year 2015-16 and Roll no 322789 issued by BTE has been actually lost. Name: Yogesh Kumar, Add. A13, Vikas Nagar Extn. Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-59. If Found Call: 9899316746 9892246333, email: machalls@gmail.com 0050154045-1

It is notified for the information that my original qualifying Marksheet of 4th Semester of year 2015-16 and Roll no 322789 issued by BTE has been actually lost. Name: Yogesh Kumar, Add. A13, Vikas Nagar Extn. Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-59. If Found Call: 9899316746 9892246333, email: machalls@gmail.com 0050154045-1

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Be known to all that my client Dalip Singh s/o Late Sh. Bhagat Singh r/o 13/347, Geeta Colony, Delhi 110031 & Balinder Kaur w/o Dalip Singh s/o Dalip Singh r/o 13/347, Geeta Colony, Delhi 110031 have severed all their relations with their son Gurpreet Singh s/o Dalip Singh r/o 13/347, Geeta Colony, Delhi 110031 and daughter-in-law Talbeer Kaur w/o Gurpreet Singh s/o Sh. Sukhwant Singh r/o 13/347, Geeta Colony, Delhi 110031 altogether their grandnephew namely Simrat Kaur & Janveer Singh for their disobedience. My client has disbarred them from inheriting their movable and immovable properties, neither disbarring them from all their relationships with son, daughter in law and grandchildren in any manner. Anybody dealing with them shall be doing so at his/her own risks and my client shall not be responsible for their acts/deeds/third dealings.

GAURAV KOCHHAR (Advocate)
Ch. No. 60, W. Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform public at large that my client Sh. Jagdish Kumar S/o Late Sh. Chandrar and Smt. Sushila W/o Jagdish Kumar both R/o House no. 11/1605, Second Floor, Sat Nagar, Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005 have discovered their son Amit Kumar and his wife Neha, selfish attitude towards their parents and have severed all their relationships with them from all their relationships with son, daughter in law and grandchildren in any manner. Anybody dealing with them shall be doing so at his/her own risks and my client shall not be responsible. Now, my clients have no concern with them and would not be responsible, in any manner qua their any kind of acts, deeds, actions and third dealings.

RAHUL VERMA (Advocate)
Ch. No. 1025, 35th Floor, Rohini Courts, Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, Gyanendra Kumar Parida S/o Pravakar Patra R/O E-384-385, 2nd Floor, E-Block, Anandvas Shaktipur, North West Delhi, Delhi-110034 hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under:-
1. That name of mine and my wife has been wrongly written as Gyanender and Retanjali in the school record of my minor son Raja Ayush Kumar aged about 15 years. The actual name of mine and my wife is Gyanendra Kumar Parida and Ritnjanj Parida, which may be amended accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Be it known to all concerned and the public at large that my clients Sh. SURESH CHANAN SHARMA S/o Late Sh. SURESH PRABHA SHARMA W/o Sh. Suresh Chander Sharma, aged 29 years, both R/O C-48/327A, Pocket-13, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058 (Senior Citizen), aggrieved by the tantic activities to grab the property, misconduct, disobedience, disrespectful, violent/aggressive and unbecoming behavior of their elder son MR. PARAS SHARMA, aged 33 years AND his wife SMT. JYOTI SHARMA, aged 29 years, both R/O R/O of Flat No. C-4C316, Pocket-14, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058 my clients hereby disown their above named son and daughter-in-law from all their movable and immovable properties and also severed all relations from them due to above mentioned reasons. Anybody who deals with Mr. Paras Sharma and Smt. Jyoti Sharma on any issue whatsoever shall be doing so at their own risk. Mr. Paras Sharma and his wife Smt. Jyoti Sharma shall have no relations with my clients in any manner and my clients shall not be liable responsible for any act or deed of aforesaid son and daughter-in-law, hereinafter.

RAJ NARESH MISHRA (Advocate)
Ch.No. 456, Civil Side, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-52

PUBLIC NOTICE
Be it known to all that my clients Sayta Prakash Mishra son of Late Sh. Khub Lal Mishra and his wife Vimlesh Mishra, both residing at M. 109 Gali No. 7, Shastri Nagar, Delhi-110052 have severed their all relations with their daughters Shri. Anjali and wife Vipul Gautam and Naina wife of Gagan Sareen and have also disowned them from their future business and all their movable and immovable properties forever, due to their past acts, conducts and behavior. Both of them shall also not be allowed to participate in any of the activities of their parents. Anybody dealing with them shall do so at the said his/her own risk.

S.K. GULATI (ADVOCATE)
Ch. No. 304-II, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003

PUBLIC NOTICE
My clients Sh. Vinod Kumar Gupta, S/o Late Sh. Srinivas Gupta, and his wife Smt. Nestam Gupta, both R/O L-29, Gali No.26, Mahendra Park, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi-110033 severed all her social relations with their son Rahul Garg @ Dalbu residing with his maternal uncle, due to his cruel acts and disobedient behaviour towards my clients and due to under the ill-advised of his own Maternal Uncle Sh. Raj Kumar @ Raju R/O Vill. Rasul pur Jahid, P.O. Rohita, Distt. Meerut, U.P. My clients disowned him from their all movable and immovable properties. My clients shall not be responsible for any act and conduct done by their said son in future

RAJ SHREE-ADVOCATE
2019, Raj Nandis, Malka Ganj, Subzi Mandi, Delhi -7

Public Notice
It is hereby notified in general that my client Mr. Kishan Kumar Aggarwal and my client Rakesh Aggarwal, both R/O G-6A, Midap Nagar Road, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, have debared & disowned their son Armit Aggarwal from all their movable and immovable properties. We, I, 1st September 2019 due to their bad behaviour and misconducts. We have lost our parental control over him. Further, on-ward dealing with them will be doing of this on his/her own risks and we. We will not be responsible for any such loots, deeds or conduct carried out by our son as named above.

KK AGGARWAL (Adv)
Enit No-D305A/81 DHC

Public Notice
Re: Third Floor with roof rights, measuring 213.03 (referred to as 'said floor') of property bearing No. C-60, Block-C, New Multan Nagar, New Delhi-110056.
Notice is hereby given to the general public, including Banks, Financial Institutions, etc., that our clients M/s IDFC First Bank Ltd., having its Registered Office at KRM Tower, 7th Floor, No. 1, Harrington Road, Chetpet, CHENNAI TAMIL NADU : 600031 and Branch office at 6th floor, Prem Dada, 11, Rajendra Place, New Delhi-110008 have under their consideration an application from M/s Communication Care, Ravinder Sharma/Ms Deepa Sharma and Ms. Sunita Sharma : for grant of loan secured by said floor which is owned by Mrs. Sunita Sharma W/o Shri Vender Nath Sharma R/O C-60, Block-C, New Multan Nagar, New Delhi by virtue of Relinquishment Deed and Release Deed both dated 10.12.008 executed in her favour, and registered as Documents Nos. 162 & 163 respectively in the office of concerned Sub-Registrar.

Public Notice
Any person including Banks/ Financial Institutions/ or other persons, relatives, organizations, companies, firms or government authorities having any claim, right, title or any interest of any nature whatsoever in or upon the above referred said floor is hereby called upon to make the same known, in writing with documentary evidence by Registered Ad Post to the undersigned at the address mentioned herebelow within 15 days of publication of this notice and in the event of no response having been received to the notice, the title of Ms. Sunita Sharma to the aforesaid floor shall be deemed to be clear of any charge or encumbrance of any nature whatsoever and any subsequent claim shall not bind our client, IDFC First Bank Ltd. in any manner whatsoever.
Mithilesh Kumar Sharma, Advocate
M/s. Intellecive Law Offices
A-74, LGF, Defence Colony, New Delhi -110024

Public Notice
This is to bring to the notice of the general public that one ID card bearing the name of Kumar Issued by ICICI Bank Ltd. having ID card no. 7933A has been lost on 02/07/2019. Anyone, who finds the said ID card is requested to return the said ID card to the Manager Dept Services & Management Group, ICICI Bank Limited, Sak Tower, Rohini, Sec-4, New Delhi.

Public Notice
Thereafter, all the customers of ICICI Bank Limited are hereby notified not to make any payment to any unauthorised person (other than the said ID card holder). Please take further notice that anybody making payment to any person holding the said ID card shall do so at his/her own costs, risk and peril and ICICI Bank shall not be bound and/or responsible for any payment.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
My clients Abdul Kaum S/o Mohd. Mosim & Smt. Zaitun W/o Abdul Kaum both R/O RZH-1203, Nihal Vihar, Nangloi, Delhi-110041 do hereby disowned their sons named Rehmat Ali & Amjad Ali & have debarrd them from all their movable & immovable properties & my clients have also severed all their relations with them. Anybody transacting / dealing with them in respect of anything in future & in doing that with his / her own risk. My clients shall not be responsible for the consequences in any manner whatsoever.
A.R. Nasir (Advocate) Ch. No. P-34

PUBLIC NOTICE
The concerned parties of this case are my client VISHNU KISHORE TRIWEDI S/O LATE SHRI GIRIRAJ KISHORE TRIWEDI RESIDENT OF 85-8/6, Sector-15, Noida DELHI-110088, declare that his SON HEMANT KISHORE TRIWEDI and his second wife MEENAKSHI and TANIWI are daughter of MEENAKSHI from first marriage are not cooperating with him and his wife and daughter. My client hereby sever all his relationship with his son and daughter MEENAKSHI and grand daughter TANIWI they are therefore debanded and disentitled to claim any right for concern in any of his movable and immovable properties of my client. Any person dealing with him will be doing so at his/her own risks and costs and my client shall not be responsible for the same.

ANAGAP SAPPRA (Advocate)
Enrolment No. D26412016

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is for information of general public that my Client Smt. Neelam Kumari W/o Sh. Kanwal Singh Malik R/O A-16, Double Storey, Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi-15 has cancelled & revoked her Disownment Notice of her son Ajay Malik which was published on 01/08/2019 in Jansatta Newspaper & Indian Express because he has reformed himself. That from now onwards Ajay Malik will have all rights, title and interest in all her movable & immovable properties.

Adv. Virender Kumar
227,



ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड
(एन.एस.ई. लिस्टेड कंपनी)
Oil India Limited
(A Government of India Enterprise)


P.O. Duliajan - 786602, Assam, India. CIN: L11101AS1959GOI001148

RECRUITMENT OF SENIOR OFFICERS ON PROBATION IN OIL

OIL INDIA LIMITED (OIL), a Navratna Public Sector Undertaking, invites **online applications** from eligible Indian Nationals, to fill up the following posts in 'Grade B' in the pay scale of ₹60,000 to 1,80,000:-

POST
Senior Officer (Geology)
Senior Officer (Geophysics)
Senior Officer (Reservoir)
Senior Officer (Drilling)
Senior Officer (Production)

The last date of receipt of Online Application is 23:59 Hours on 28-09-2019.
For details visit: <http://www.oil-india.com/oilnew/Current-openings>



RANGE POLICE HEADQUARTERS JAMMU
LOOK OUT NOTICE

As reported by Rishabh Kaushal that his father namely Vinod Kumar S/O Bansil Lal R/O Kathar near Railway Station Manwal is missing and accordingly missing report of said Vinod Kumar was entered the Daily Diary of Police Post Manwal vide DDR No. 29 dated 21.06.2017. Despite thorough search whereabouts are still unknown.

As such photograph of missing person namely Vinod Kumar S/O Bansil Lal R/O Kathar near Railway Station Manwal is being published for information of Police establishments/public in general and if having any clue related to his whereabouts/present location, kindly communicate the same on the below mentioned contact/Telephone numbers.

1) Range Police Hqrs. Jammu : 0191-2546750 (Fax) 0191-2546508 (off)

2) DIG Jammu's Mail I.D : digjammu-jk@nic.in

3) DPO Jammu : 0191-2542000, 0191-2561578

4) SSP Jammu's Mail I.D : ssjjammu@kpolice.gov.in

5) PCR Jammu : 0191-2542000

6) SP Rural Jammu : 0191-260433778


7) SP PC Jammu : 0191-2437824, (Mobile) 94190-15665

8) SDPO Nagrota : 0191-267366 (Mobile) 94191-64102

9) Police Station Nagrota : 0191-2673025 (Mobile) 94198-35599

10) Police Station Jhajar Kotli : 0191-2668008 (Mobile) 94191-49295

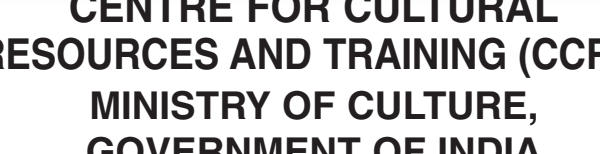
11) Police Post Manwal : 94191-54142




Sd/-
Dy. Inspector General of Police,
JSK Range Jammu

Name : Vinod Kumar
Parentage : Bansil Lal
Permanent Address : R/O Village Kathaad Near Railway Station Manwal Jhajar Kotli Jammu
Police Station : Manwal, Jammu
Age : 53 years
Height : 5' - 9"
Dress Code : White T-Shirt and black Check Nicker

No-Legal/2019/303-08
Dated: 07.03.2019
DIPJ-5859



CENTRE FOR CULTURAL RESOURCES AND TRAINING (CCRT)
MINISTRY OF CULTURE, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



SCHEME FOR THE AWARD OF JUNIOR & SENIOR FELLOWSHIP TO OUTSTANDING PERSONS IN THE FIELD OF CULTURE

Online Applications are invited by CCRT, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India for the award of Junior and Senior Fellowship for undertaking research oriented projects in the field of Performing, Literary, Plastic Arts and New Areas related to Culture.

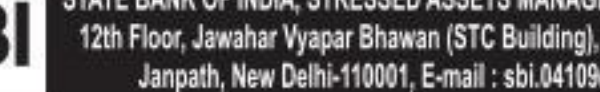
Applications are invited for the year 2019-2020 with effect from 09 September, 2019. There are 200 Junior & 200 Senior Fellowships for this year. Details of the schemes, instructions for applicants, eligibility conditions/ criteria and Application Module are available on the following websites of the Ministry of Culture Government of India and CCRT.

www.indiaculture.nic.in
www.ccrtindia.gov.in

28 October, 2019 is the last date for submission of applications.

ONLY ONLINE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED

davp-09127/11/0011/1920



STATE BANK OF INDIA, STRESSED ASSETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH-I
12th Floor, Jawahar Vihar Bhawan (STC Building), 1, Tolstoy Marg, Janpath, New Delhi-110001, E-mail : sbi.04109@sbi.co.in

POSSESSION NOTICE (Under Rule 8(i) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the State Bank of India Having its Branch Office at: **SAM Branch-I, 12th Floor, Jawahar Vihar Bhawan, STC Building No. 1, Tolstoy Marg, Janpath, New Delhi-110001**, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rules(3) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer posted at the Retail Assets Processing Centre (RACPC) 59, Community Centre, Near PVR Naraina Industrial Area, Phase-I, New Delhi-110028, has issued a Demand Notice on 03.10.2018 US 13(2) of the said Act calling upon the Borrower Mr. Vipul Kant Upadhyay and Mrs. Parul Upadhyay 1, H No. 7, Road C2, DLF Qutub Enclave Complex, Phase-I, Chakrapur, Gurgaon, Haryana. 2, H No. 18 Central Drive, DLF Chattarpur Farms, Mehrauli, New Delhi. 3.A Block, 2nd Floor, Ansal Palam Triangle, Main Road, Palam Vihar, Gurgaon, Haryana. 4. Office Address: M/s IAP Company Pvt. Ltd. H No. 353/1, Near Gokul Dham Temple, Main Road, Bijwasan, New Delhi. (here in after the Borrower and Guarantors are collectively referred to as the 'Borrowers') to repay the amount mentioned in the said Demand Notices being payable Rs. 3,14,87,746.00 (Rupees Three Crore Fourteen Lacs Eight Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Six only) as on 03.01.2018 amount at the contractual rates of interest together with all incidental expenses, cost charges, etc. within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said respective Demand notices.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to borrowers, in particular and public in general that the undersigned has taken **Physical Possession** of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement) rules 2002 on the 02-09-2019.

The Borrower and the Guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the said under mentioned properties and any dealings with the said properties shall be subject to the charge of State Bank of India for an amount of Rs. 3,14,87,746.00 (Rupees Three Crore Fourteen Lacs Eight Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Six only) as on 03.01.2018 along with future interest on the aforesaid amount together with all incidental expenses, cost charges, etc.


The borrower's /guarantor's/mortgagor's attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

The amount recoverable from the Borrower and the Guarantors, jointly and severally is Rs. 3,14,87,746.00 (Rs Three Crore Fourteen Lacs Eight Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Six only) with contractual rates of interest as on 03.01.2018 by the Bank and Rs. 9,97,01,640/- (Rs Nine Crores Ninety Seven Lacs One Thousand Six Hundred Forty Only) as on 15.12.2017 which is due and payable by the Defendants as Guarantors towards the credit facilities availed by M/s IAP Company Pvt. Ltd from the Applicant Bank totaling to amount of Rs. 13,11,98,386/- with future interest at the contractual rates on the aforesaid amount together with all incidental expenses, costs, charges, etc.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE / MOVABLE PROPERTY

All Part And Parcel of the Property Measuring 420 Sq Mtrs. Situated at H No. 7, Road No. C/2, DLF, Qutub Enclave Complex, Phase-I, Chakrapur, Gurgaon, Haryana Registered Vide Document No.- 11386, Book No. 1 Volume No.- 5380 (Old) 811 (New) at Page No.- 15-16 (Old), 124 (New) Dated 29/08/2006 in the name of Sh. Vipul Kant Upadhyaya and Smt. Parul Upadhyaya Bounded as : East : Plot No. C-1/16, West : Road, North : Plot No. C-2/6, South : Plot No. C-2/8

Date : 02-09-2019, Place : New Delhi Authorized Officer, State Bank of India



ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL
PROTECTING INVESTING FINANCING ADVISING

Aditya Birla Finance Limited

Registered Office: Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat – 362 266
CIN: U65990GJ1991PLC064603

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT., 2002. (54 of 2002).

1. M/s Dangus RM India Company, Through Its Director - Mrs. Archana Singh Having Address at:- 16 SF, M2K, White House, Sector 57, Gurgaon, Haryana.

2. Mr. Sanjay Singh Having Address at:- 16 SF, M2K, White House, Sector 57, Gurgaon, Haryana

3. Archana Singh 16 SF, M2K, White House, Sector 57, Gurgaon, Haryana.

4. M/s Dangus RM India Company C-231, Sushant Lok-3, Sector-57 Opposite Boom Plaza, Gurgaon-122003

LOAN ACCOUNT NUMBER OF LINE OF CREDIT (LOC) 0206403 FOR AN AMOUNT OF Rs. 2,25,00,000.00/- (RUPEES TWO CRORE TWENTY FIVE LAKHS ONLY) AND DROP LINE LOC 12008100093 FOR AN AMOUNT OF Rs. 2,25,00,000.00/- (RUPEES TWO CRORE TWENTY FIVE LAKHS ONLY).

Whereas Aditya Birla Finance Limited, a Company incorporated under the Companies Act 1956, having its registered office at Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat 362 266 and having one of its offices at 2nd Floor, UCO Building, 5, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001 (hereinafter referred as "ABFL") had extended credit facility to you, the Addressees. The said credit facility is secured inter alia by way of mortgage over the immovable property - All piece and parcel of Residential property being House No. H-16, SF, admeasuring area 1720 Sq. Ft. Situated at Mayfield Gardens, Sector -57, Gurgaon, Haryana. (hereinafter referred to as the "said property").

That you, the Addressee have failed to maintain financial discipline in the loan account as mentioned above and as per the books of accounts maintained in the ordinary course of business by ABFL there exists an outstanding amount of **Rs. 1,41,01,652.72/- (Rupees One Crore Forty One Lakhs Six Hundred Fifty Two and Seventy Two Paise only) Outstanding Towards Line of Credit (LOC) by way of outstanding principal, arrears and interest till 14.08.2019.** In addition to the said outstanding dues, you are also liable to pay interest and penal interests and/or other charges due in future till the entire outstanding dues are paid. Due to persistent default on the part of you the addressee the loan account has been classified by ABFL as **Non-Performing Asset on 31st JULY 2019** within the norms stipulated by the Reserve Bank of India.

In view of the above default, ABFL hereby calls upon you the addressee to discharge in full your liabilities towards ABFL by making the payment of the entire outstanding dues including up to date interest, costs, and charges within 60 (sixty) from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, ABFL shall be entitled to take possession of the Secured Asset and shall also take other actions as is available to ABFL in law.

That please be informed that you are hereby restrained from alienating (including by way of transfer, sale, lease or otherwise) or creating third party interest or dealing with the secured asset in any manner except with specific prior written permission from ABFL. Be informed that any contravention thereof shall be punishable with imprisonment upto a period of one year or with fine or with both.

That please note that this is a final notice under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. Needless to say that ABFL shall be within its right to exercise any or all of the rights referred to above against you the Addressee entirely at your risk, responsibility and costs.

ADITYA BIRLA FINANCE LIMITED
PLACE : DELHI
DATE : 08-09-2019
Sd/-
AUTHORIZED OFFICER

Public Notice-V

Special Investigation Team (1984 Sikh Riots)

This is in furtherance to SIT Public Notices dated 17th & 18th June 2016, 27th August 2016, 11th November 2016 and 2nd & 3rd March, 2017 published in various newspapers and on the website of MHA in connection with the 1984 Riots cases. This is to inform to all individuals, Group of persons, Associations, Institutions & Organizations that if they have any information in respect of any of the following cases, they may contact the Officer In-charge of SIT, Police Station.

Sl. No.	Case FIR No.	Police Station	Name of Complainant	Address of Complainant	Place of incident
1	321/84	Vasant Vihar	St Laxmi Narayan PS Vasant Vihar	PS Vasant Vihar	H. No. 118-A, Village Munirka, Delhi.
2	372/84	Sun Light Colony (S.N. Puri)	Smt. Balbir Kaur w/o Shri Trilochan Singh	1A/89 Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi.	H. No. 83, Bhagwan Nagar, Sun Light Colony, New Delhi.
3	424/84	Kalyan Puri	St Roshan Lal PS Kalyanpuri	PS Kalyanpuri	Block No. 1, 11 & 13 Kalyanpuri, Delhi.
4	601/84	Parliament Street	St Hoshiyar Singh PS Parliament Street	PS Parliament Street, New Delhi.	Gurduwara Rakab Ganj, New Delhi.
5	1056/84	Connaught Place	St Satish Chander Yadav PS Connaught Place	PS Connaught Place, New Delhi.	Connaught Place Area.
6	556/84	Patel Nagar	St Dharm Pal, I/C PP Anand Parbat	Police Station Anand Parbat	Anand Parbat Area.
7	607/84	Shahdara	St Surrender Dev	Police Station Shahdara	Babarpur Road & Loni Road, Shahdara

The details of these cases are also available on the website of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India at Union territories division of Public Notice section i.e. https://mha.gov.in/division_of_mha/AGMU_Cadre_Management

Officer In-charge/SIT P.S. 'B' Wing, 2nd Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi – 110003.
Tele fax: 011-24648136
E-mail- sho.sit84riots@mha.gov.in

DAVP/19101/11/0009/1920

MUTHOOT FINCORP LTD. GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

Regd. Office: Muthoot Centre, TC No 14/2074 - 7 Punnen Road, Trivandrum, Kerala - 695 039, CIN : U65929KL1997PLC011518, Ph: +91 471 4911400, 2331427

Notice is hereby given for the information of all concerned that Gold ornaments pledged with under mentioned branches of the company for the period upto 30.11.2018 & MSGL, SPL-16, One plus & Guide Prepaid - 6 month scheme up to 28.02.2019 and MSGB, EMI & SME SUVARNA due up to 31.08.2019 which were overdue for redemption and which have not been redeemed so far in spite of repeated notices, will be auctioned on 17.09.2019 from 10 am onwards.

BAHADURGARH: F7894, F8162, F8223, F8447, F8460, F8462, F8466, F8468, F8470, F8473, F8477, F8489, F8492, F8498, F8507, F8493, F8529, F8535, F8553, F8554, F8565, F8574, F8577, F8584, F8590, F8591, F8592, F8593, F8594, F8595, F8596, F8597, F8598, F8599, F8600, F8601, F8602, F8603, F8604, F8605, F8606, F8607, F8608, F8609, F8610, F8611, F8612, F8613, F8614, F8615, F8616, F8617, F8618, F8619, F8620, F8621, F8622, F8623, F8624, F8625, F8626, F8627, F8628, F8629, F8630, F8631, F8632, F8633, F8634, F8635, F8636, F8637, F8638, F8639, F8640, F8641, F8642, F8643, F8644, F8645, F8646, F8647, F8648, F8649, F8650, F8651, F8652, F8653, F8654, F8655, F8656, F8657, F8658, F8659, F8660, F8661, F8662, F8663, F8664, F8665, F8666, F8667, F8668, F8669, F8670, F8671, F8672, F8673, F8674, F8675, F8676, F8677, F8678, F8679, F8680, F8681, F8682, F8683, F8684, F8685, F8686, F8687, F8688, F8689, F8690, F8691, F8692, F8693, F8694, F8695, F8696, F8697, F8698, F8699, F8700, F8701, F8702, F8703, F8704, F8705, F8706, F8707, F8708, F8709, F8710, F8711, F8712, F8713, F8714, F8715, F8716, F8717, F8718, F8719, F8720, F8721, F8722, F8723, F8724, F8725, F8726, F8727, F8728, F8729, F8730, F8731, F8732, F8733, F8734, F8735, F8736, F8737, F8738, F8739, F8740, F8741, F8742, F8743, F8744, F8745, F8746, F8747, F8748, F8749, F8750, F8751, F8752, F8753, F8754, F8755, F8756, F8757, F8758, F8759, F8760, F8761, F8762, F8763, F8764, F8765, F8766, F8767, F8768, F8769, F8770, F8771, F8772, F8773, F8774, F8775, F8776, F8777, F8778, F8779, F8780, F8781, F8782, F8783, F8784, F8785, F8786, F8787, F8788, F8789, F8790, F8791, F8792, F8793, F8794, F8795, F8796, F8797, F8798, F8799, F8800, F8801, F8802, F8803, F8804, F8805, F8806, F8807, F8808, F8809, F8810, F8811, F8812, F8813, F8814, F8815, F8816, F8817, F8818, F8819, F8820, F8821, F8822, F8823, F8824, F8825, F8826, F8827, F8828, F8829, F8830, F8831, F8832, F8833, F8834, F8835, F8836, F8837, F8838, F8839, F8840, F8841, F8842, F8843, F8844, F8845, F8846, F8847, F8848, F8849, 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F9565, F9566, F9567, F9568, F9569, F9570, F9571, F9572, F9573, F9574, F9575, F9576, F9577, F9578, F9579, F9580, F9581, F9582, F9583, F9584, F9585, F9586, F9587, F9588, F9589, F9590, F9591, F9592, F9593, F9594, F9595, F9596, F9597, F9598, F9599, F9600, F9601, F9602, F9603, F9604, F9605, F9606, F9607, F9608, F9609, F9610, F9611, F9612, F9613, F9614, F9615, F9616, F9617, F9618, F9619, F9620, F9621, F9622, F9623, F9624, F9625, F9626,

22 ECONOMY

AS INDIA LOOKS TO REACH CONSENSUS ON E-MOBILITY, CARMAKERS ARE PUSHING THE ENVELOPE

Innovations in EV tech: From powering homes to plugging last mile connectivity

ANIL SASI
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

E-CARS THAT double up as mobile power sources to electric vehicles (EV) incorporating folded e-scooters in the boot as a compliment to the main vehicle, both for last mile connectivity and as a back-up option if the user were to ever be stranded at some point due to low battery in the car.

As the task of thrashing out a consensus on the template for driving in electric mobility for mass market adoption gets underway in India, global carmakers are already pushing the envelope to new frontiers of EV technologies. Japanese carmaker Nissan is marketing the new Leaf electric — now the world's largest selling electric car model — as not just a mobility provider, but also as a mobile power source by leveraging the car's 40 kWh (kilo watt hour) battery to plug in and power the owner's house in the event of an extended outage or if the solar electricity source were to get fully exhausted, or for even wheeling electricity back to the grid if such a market evolves.

Other such as South Korea's Hyundai are exploring the idea of using e-scooters as a complement to their vehicles instead of an alternative, by releasing an e-scooter prototype that can be mounted and automatically charged on upcoming Hyundai and Kia vehicles using electricity that is produced while driving. Once the vehicle is parked, the compartments open and the driver is able to quickly transfer from car to the scooter after unfolding the latter.

German carmaker BMW too



Nissan's new Leaf electric can act not just as a mobility provider, but also as a mobile power source by leveraging its 40 kWh battery to plug in and power homes. *Nissan Global*



Hyundai plans to compliment its e-vehicles with foldable scooters. *Hyundai Motor*

has unveiled its own electric scooter with a range of about 12 miles, which is on sale at the company's German dealerships.

For Nissan, its vehicle-to-home (V2H) technology-equipped Leaf could theoretically be an alternative to a home battery system, such as those used in back-up inverters, saving consumers money by storing solar energy for night time use.

In countries where there is time-of-the-day metering of power, the owner of a Leaf can technically make a daily earning by simply charging at off-peak rates overnight and discharging power to the grid during the day.

Analysts estimate that the 40 kWh version of the Leaf offers at least ten times the energy storage capacity of a large-sized home battery. While it is still early days, Nissan Motor India — a unit of the Yokohama-based Japanese carmaker — has indicated that this technology could be "a strong asset" for a new mobility framework in the proposed

Smart City projects in India.

Elaborating on the application of its bidirectional vehicle charging system in India, Bruno Grippy, director of Connected Cars and Product Planning-AMI (Africa Middle East and India) Region of Nissan, told *The Indian Express* that the auto major is working with various governments and private companies to make plugging in as accessible as possible.

"The new Nissan Leaf links drivers, vehicles and communities through the user-friendly systems that share power between electric vehicles and homes, buildings and power grids. One of the most famous projects has been implemented in Hawaii with the local electric company to use hundreds of Leaf as a storage of electricity during low demand period in the day," Grippy said.

In India, he indicated that Nissan had recently demonstrated V2H technology in the new Leaf by powering live

screening of several matches of the Indian cricket team at the 2019 World Cup.

"V2H allows Nissan Leaf owners to charge their cars when power demand from the grid is low, such as night, then use the power to run their homes during peak demand periods. We are welcoming all potential Indian partners who want to experiment (with) this unique V2H technology in their building, infrastructure, grid, vehicle, etc. For instance, it could be a strong asset for a new mobility framework in a Smart city," according to Grippy.

Analysts predict that consumers are likely to use their cars more as batteries than as vehicles, given that vehicles are parked 90 per cent of the time and that it can be a more efficient asset if it is doing work even when it is parked.

The electric scooter plans of auto majors such as Hyundai offer interesting solutions too. The South Korean carmaker plans to

AVIATION WATCH

OMCs RESUME FUEL SUPPLY TO AI

New Delhi: State-owned oil marketing companies (OMC) on Saturday resumed fuel supplies to Air India (AI) at six airports, weeks after it was suspended for mounting dues. Supplies to Air India resumed Saturday evening, an OMC spokesperson said. **PTI**

Zomato lays off 541 support staff citing 'redundancies'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

ONLINE RESTAURANT discovery and food delivery company Zomato has laid off as many as 541 people, representing 10 per cent of the firm's strength. The company said the job cuts were across its customer, merchant and delivery partner support teams — which were rendered redundant due to reduction in order-related support queries. The current round of handing over of pink slips comes in addition to the 60 employees that Zomato laid off last month to reduce costs and eliminate redundancies, taking the total number of layoffs by the company to at least 600 this year.

"Over the last few months, we have seen our technology products and platforms evolve and improve significantly. While business has continued to grow consistently, this has led to an overall reduction in direct order-related support queries. We have dramatically improved the speed of service resolution, such that now only 75 per cent of our orders need support (down from 15 per cent in March)," a Zomato spokesperson said.

"Unfortunately, the culmination of these factors has also led to certain redundancies across our customer, merchant and delivery partner support teams. Today, we let go of 541 people (~10 per cent of Zomato's strength) across these support teams," the person added.

Zomato said severance pay of 2-4 months will be extended to those who have been handed the pink slips, depending on their tenure with the firm, in addition to extending insurance support for these employees till January 2020. It pointed out that there was no one intervention or optimisation that led to the move "but a series of technological and process advances that on one end spurred

E
Explained
Comes amid standoff with restaurant owners

THE FRESH round of layoffs in the food delivery sector has come at a time when Zomato, along with other delivery platforms such as Swiggy and Uber Eats, are in the middle of a standoff with the restaurant owners — led by the National Restaurants Association of India — over the alleged anti-competitive practices being followed by the platforms.

The layoffs add to the job losses in manufacturing sectors such as the auto and ancillary units.

the growth of our food delivery business and subsequently the 5X growth of our delivery partner fleet over the last year, have also led to fewer support queries and certain redundancies within support functions". "This year we have hired ~1,200 people across functions (not inclusive of our last-mile delivery fleet) and another ~400 off-rolls positions," the spokesperson said.

Post Saturday's layoffs, Zomato's current staff strength is estimated to be 5,000, including its international operations. Back in 2015, the firm — as part of restructuring its operations to focus on increasing traffic on the platform — asked nearly 300 of its employees in North America to leave.

‘Revenue visibility of pvt road segment players may be hit’

Revenue visibility of players operating in roads segment would be impacted negatively in the medium term in case of slowdown in fresh awards by NHAI, India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) said in a report

Factors that caused slowdown in road sector:

- General elections in fourth quarter of FY19 and first quarter of FY20
- Government change in some states, where infra projects awarded by previous governments were cancelled

Return to BOT model a deterrent:

The suggestion by the PM's Office to NHAI to return to privatisation of roads by reverting back to the build-operate-transfer (BOT) model to reduce NHAI's balance sheet exposure can

₹1,116 billion

Budgetary allocation support to Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, including internal and extra-budgetary resources, rising 12.4 per cent year-on-year

35-40%

Share of road segment in total order book of construction firms, with most projects having exposure from NHAI and state authorities

500 km

Worth of road projects awarded by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) of the targeted 7,000-8,000 km for FY20

adversely impact bidding participation from private players

NHAI's reliance on EPC model: The NHAI's reliance on engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) model has increased since FY16, due to a decline in participation from private players on account of persistent issues in the BOT model

WHAT IS BOT

Under the BOT model, private players have to bring in equity and tie up debt funding to execute the orders

FinMin forms task force to implement ₹100 lakh crore worth of infra projects

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

A DAY after pushing state-owned companies to accelerate investments, the Centre on Saturday constituted a task force to identify and prepare a pipeline of infrastructure projects that can be executed over the next five years. The task force, headed by the Economic Affairs Secretary, will draw up a 'National Infrastructure Pipeline' of Rs 100 lakh crore expected to come up by 2024-25.

This would include greenfield and brownfield projects costing above Rs 100 crore each, a Finance Ministry statement said. The task force will comprise secretaries from different ministries, other senior officials and the CEO of NITI Aayog. It will identify technically feasible and financially/economically viable infrastructure projects that can be initiated in FY20.

The panel has been asked to list the projects that can be included in the pipeline for each of the remaining five years between fiscals 2021-25.

The task force, constituted by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, will submit its report on the pipeline for 2019-20 by October 31, 2019 and on the in-

NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE PIPELINE

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■ The panel has been asked to list projects that can be included in pipeline for each of remaining five years between fiscals 2021-25

■ The move comes a day after the Centre suggested large CPSEs to "accelerate investment activities" and speed up clearance of outstanding dues to contractors

dicative pipeline for 2021-25 by December-end, the Ministry statement added.

In the past decade (fiscals 2008-17), India invested about \$1.1 trillion on infrastructure, the government said. "To implement an infrastructure program of this scale, it is important that projects are adequately prepared and launched," the Ministry said, adding that in pursuance of this an annual infrastructure pipeline would be developed.

As per the terms of reference (ToR) of the task force, it has also been asked to estimate annual infrastructure investment/capital costs, guide ministries in identify-

ing appropriate sources of financing and suggest measures to monitor the projects to minimise cost and time overruns.

Other qualifications for inclusion in the pipeline for the current year will include availability of a detailed project report (DPR), feasibility of implementation, inclusion in the financing plan and readiness/availability of administrative sanction.

Each ministry/departments would be responsible for monitoring of projects so as to ensure their timely and within-cost implementation. The task force will also enable robust marketing of the pipeline of projects requiring

private investment through the India Investment Grid and National Investment and Infrastructure Fund, among others.

The move comes a day after the government suggested large central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) to "accelerate investment activities" and speed up clearance of outstanding dues to contractors. On Friday, senior Finance Ministry officials held a meeting with heads of CPSEs including NTPC, SAIL, NHAI and PGCIL, as well as financial advisors of infrastructure ministries, to review and speed up the planned capex.

The measures come in the backdrop of economic growth falling to a six-year low and other lead indicators (such as car/tractor sales, FMCG volume growth) presenting a pessimistic picture.

Weak manufacturing and consumption numbers dragged the country's gross domestic product (GDP) growth to a 25-quarter low of 5 per cent in the first quarter (April-June) of the current fiscal, data released by National Statistical Office last Friday showed.

The GDP growth rate has now slowed for the fifth consecutive quarter with the previous low recorded at 4.3 per cent in March 2013. **WITHTPTI**

China's forex reserves for Aug rise to \$3.1072 trillion

REUTERS
BEIJING, SEPTEMBER 7

CHINA'S FOREIGN exchange reserves rose unexpectedly in August, even as the yuan posted its biggest monthly drop in 25 years amid escalating trade tensions with the United States.

The country's foreign exchange reserves — the world's largest — rose by \$3.5 billion in August to \$3.1072 trillion, central bank data showed on Saturday.

Economists polled by *Reuters* had expected reserves would fall \$4 billion from July to \$3.100 trillion, likely due to fluctuations in global exchange rates and the prices of foreign bonds that China holds.

The increase in August was due to China maintaining a stable balance of international payments and generally stable economic growth, the foreign exchange regulator said in a statement after the data release.

Bond prices in major countries also rose, it added. China has been able to keep capital outflows under control over the past year despite an escalating trade war with the US and weakening economic growth at home.

Reserves have rebounded from an October 2018 low thanks to capital controls and rising foreign investments in Chinese stocks and bonds.

In August, the Chinese yuan tumbled about 3.8 per cent against the dollar.

BRIEFLY

‘Nissan alliance is priority for Renault’

Cernobbio (Italy): French Economy Minister Bruno Le Maire, on the sidelines of the Ambrosetti business forum on Saturday, poured cold water on the possibility of merger talks between Fiat Chrysler and Renault resuming any time soon, saying that the priority for the French car maker was to strengthen its alliance with Nissan. **REUTERS**

CDEL ropes in IDFC Securities as advisor

New Delhi: Coffee Day Enterprises (CDEL) on Saturday announced appointment of IDFC Securities as an advisor to identify strategic options and advise it on refinancing of existing debt. Strategic options include divestment of stake in Coffee Day Global and other group companies, according to a filing by CDEL. **PTI**

‘Anti-competitive’ practices by Uber: SC orders investigation

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

THE SUPREME Court has ordered a probe into the alleged abuse of dominance and anti-competitive practices by popular taxi-hailing app operator Uber India Systems. It also requested the Director General of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) to complete the probe within six months.

Refusing to interfere with the erstwhile Competition Appellate Tribunal's (Compat) December 2016 order, an SC bench led by Justice RF Nariman dismissed Uber's appeal, saying it would be difficult to say that no prima facie case is made out from the material provided by the informants.

It found sufficient material to order an investigation into allegations against Uber, which intentionally was losing as much as Rs 200 per ride, and offering cheap rides to customers and heavy incentives to drivers. As per Meru Cab's complaint, Uber allegedly resorted to many abusive practices with the sole intent to establish its monopoly and eliminate otherwise equally efficient competitors from the market by way

Radio taxi service provider Meru Cabs had alleged that Uber was intentionally losing as much as Rs 200 per ride, and offering cheap rides to customers and heavy incentives to drivers

of discounts and incentives.

The radio taxi service provider had alleged that Uber was intentionally suffering losses on rides on its application, pricing them below cost to gain customers (predatory pricing) and directly or indirectly forcing cab drivers to remain exclusively on its platform, thus indulging in anti-competitive practices. It added Uber was willingly losing as much as approximately Rs 200 per trip, and alleged that Uber is spending about \$885 million to generate a revenue of \$415 million.

"Given the allegation made, ... it is clear that if, in fact, a loss is made for trips made, Explanation (a)(ii) would prima facie be attracted in as much as this would certainly affect the appellant's competitors in the appellant's favour or the appellant's favour. In so far as 'abuse' of dominant position is concerned, under Section 4(2)(a), so long as

this dominant position, whether directly or indirectly, imposes an unfair price in purchase or sale including predatory price of services, abuse of dominant position also gets attracted. Explanation (b) which defines 'predatory price' means sale of services at a price which is below cost. This being the case, on the facts of this case, on this ground alone, we do not think it fit to interfere with the order made by the Appellate Tribunal," the Supreme Court said.

Earlier in 2017, the apex court had put on hold the Compat's order which directed CCI, the fair trade watchdog, to investigate afresh the alleged abuse of dominance by Uber.

The Compat had in December 2016 ordered a probe after Meru Travels Solutions challenged CCI's earlier decision that refused to order a probe into allegations against Uber's unfair practices including predatory pricing. **FE**

BRIDGE

Even though you have no intention of finesseing for the HK, lead the HQ anyway. Some players love to cover honors when they shouldn't. Some consider it a religious obligation. When a queen is led, third hand normally plays the king from Kx (unless the 10 is in the dummy). If third hand doesn't make that play, assume third hand has at least three cards in the suit. However, on this hand West should not cover from Kx knowing the opponents have a 10 card heart fit and partner has at most a singleton.

Dlr: North; Vul: Both

NORTH

♠ 9 7 3

♥ A J 9 5 3

♦ K J 10 4

♣ 6

SOUTH

♠ A 5 4

♥ Q 10 8 7 2

♦ Q 7

♣ A Q 10

NORTH

Pass

4 ♣

Pass

EAST

Pass

Pass

Pass

SOUTH

1 ♥

4 ♥

WEST

Pass

Pass

OPENING LEAD: SQ East plays the S8, encouraging, plan the play.

Given East's encouraging signal at trick one, it is likely that spades are 4-3. If East had Kx, East would normally overtake to unblock the suit. All this means that you are in danger of losing two spades, the DA and the HK. Furthermore, you don't have time to drive out the DA. The opponents will cash two spades and you will be at the mercy of the heart finesse. The better play is to win the SA and lead the HQ to the HA. If the HK doesn't drop, take the club finesse. If it works, pitch a spade from dummy and make your contract that way.

THE WEST HAND: ♠ QJ 10 2 ♥ 6 ♦ A 8 6 5 ♣ J 9 8 3

THE EAST HAND: ♠ K 8 6 ♥ K 4 ♦ 9 3 2 ♣ K 7 5 4 2

Dlr: South; Vul: None

NORTH

♠ A 7 5

♥ J 10 9

♦ K 8 6 4 2

♣ 9 4

SOUTH

♠ K 8 4 2

♥ A Q

♦ A 5 3

♣ A K 8 6

SOUTH

2 NT

Pass

WEST

Pass

Pass

NORTH

3 NT

Pass

EAST

Pass

Pass

OPENING LEAD: H4 East plays the H2, standard count.

Plan the play.

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2233

QUICK CLUES
ACROSS

8. Gave a forceful push? (6)

9. Assuages (8)

10. Set on fire; enkindled passions in? (8)

11. Take umbrage (6)

12. Bhagwan Dada's famous movie (6)

13. Establish a settlement or a society (8)

14. A Mirror ____ from Side to Side : Agatha Christie novel? (7)

16. Reaching (7)

20. Manner of speaking, idiom (8)

23. Penetrate or prick with a needle? (6)

25. Uses profanity? (6)

26. A series of words of equal length arranged to read the same horizontally or vertically (8)

27. Bunches of things growing together (8)

28. Number for a soccer team (6)

DOWN

1. ____ Bing of Friends (8)

2. Derive, progress, come about (6)

3. Just plain drinking water - and slightly Biblical, if you will? (5,3)

4. Create, make or yield? (7)

5. Consisting of flowers (6)

6. Capital of Finland (8)

7. Table ____ : ping pong? (6)

15. Fall or crumple down like a house of cards? (8)

17. Journalist (8)

18. Collections of records (8)

19. By reason of (7)

21. Whenever one wishes? (2,4)

22. Overly inquisitive (6)

24. ____ said than done? (6)

2 (4)

25. Last colour presentation to feature a child (6)

26. Variety store kept in small fish and growing trees (8)

27. Lunch finished, Alf and me carried it back in the interval (4-4)

28. Attraction of a second hearing? (6)

19. Upset, having played first card, to see trump over it (7)

21. Double about to get lawyer back? Take another look at it (6)

22. Enters fast and makes an arrest? (4,2)

24. Justice nets a Polish adversary - the former dictator (6)

SOLUTIONS TO 2232

QUICK CLUES Across: 8 Virtuoso, 9 Oceans, 10 Attachment, 11 Toot, 12 Sailor, 14 Lonesome, 15 Cyanide, 17 Spindle, 20 Ventures, 22 Nod off, 24 Idle, 25 Manifested, 27 Intern, 28 Normally. Down: 1 Kistna, 2 Stoa, 3 Bothered, 4 Soberly, 5 Rotten, 6 Jettisoned, 7 Informal, 13 Lengthened, 16 Yielding, 18 Profuse, 19 Ashine, 21 Remand, 23 Freshly, 26 Slap. CRYPTIC CLUES Across: 8 Deputies, 9 Origin, 10 Bullet hole, 11 Tabs, 12 Henry, 14 Not so hot, 15 Testate, 17 Run away, 20 Microbes, 22 Pay-day, 24 Pram, 25 Anthracite, 27 Stones, 28 Eruption. Down: 1 Peruse, 2 Lull, 3 District, 4 Astound, 5 Court, 6 Dictionary, 7 Dimboola, 13 Retreat, 16 Emigrate, 18 Uppercut, 19 Ash tree, 21 Braise, 23 Action, 26 Cato.

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

I am not bound to _____ with my answer. - William Shakespeare (6,4)

PTEEE

KUAES

EILRLT

GILTHP

SOLUTION: PTEEE: TEPEE, TILTER, FLIGHT
KUAES: UKASE, PLIGHT
EILRLT: LITER, FLIGHT
GILTHP: PLIGHT

SUDOKU 3963

Difficulty Level 2s

Instructions

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

5

1

6

2

1

4

6

2

1

8

3

4

2

9

7

2

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6

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1

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SOLUTION SUDOKU 3962

2

9

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3

Dakshin Gujarat Vij Co. Ltd.

CIN U40102GJ2003SGC042909

Regd. & Corp. Office : "Urja Sadan", N. V. Road, Kapodara Char Rasta, Surat-395 006 GUJARAT

DGVCL Toll Free No. 19123 OR 1800 233 3003

Tender Notice

Details are put up on www.dgvcl.com (for view and download tender documents) and www.dgvcl.nprocure.com (for view, download and online tender submission).

Sr. No.	Tender No.
1	DGVCL/SP/2019-20/19050/CPP/11KV XLPE Cable

Note: Bidders may visit our website for regular updates till opening of the tender.

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BHUBANESWAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Adv No : 24763 Dt.07.09.2019

NOTICE INVITING REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

BMC wishes to invite Proposals for "Biomining of Legacy Waste at the Dumpsite in Bhuasuni, Bhubaneswar" in conformity with the Terms & Conditions detailed in the RFP. It is a three stage two envelopes bidding process (Envelope 1 - Technical Bid and Envelope 2 - Financial Bid). Interested Operators may refer to Website www.bmc.gov.in for details and download the RFP document from 10.09.2019 at 3:00 P.M. onwards. The last date & time of submission of proposal is 30.10.2019 till 3:30 P.M.

For any queries please contact dc-sanitation@bmc.gov.in

By Order,
Dy. Commissioner (Sanitation)
Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation
Progress Through Partnership for a Better Bhubaneswar

दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लिमिटेड

(उपग्रह सरकार का उपक्रम)

CIN:U31200UP2003SGC027460

अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना

ई-निविदा विशिष्टीकरण सं 40-MD/DVVNL/CE/Com/Tender Work: For Appointment of Accredited Energy Auditors For Conducting Mandatory Energy Audit as per BEE Guidelines निविदा शुल्क ₹ 2500+ (18% जीएसटी), सरोहर राशि ₹ 10,000.00 निविदा खुलने का दिनांक 17.09.2019.

निविदा शुल्क केवल ऑनलाइन, DVVNL, AGRA की वेबसाइट www.dvvn.org के माध्यम से ही स्वीकार किया जायेगा। विवरण के लिए कृपया निविदा प्रपत्र ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ लें।

उपरोक्त निविदा निर्धारित दिनांक को समय 13:00 बजे तक ऑनलाइन अपलोड की जा सकेंगी एवं निर्धारित दिनांक को साथ 16:00 बजे खोली जायेगी। निविदा प्रपत्र उपग्रह शासन के ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट पोर्टल अक्षीक्षण अभियान (आरपीडीआरपी), दक्षिणविशालिफि, आगरा। "राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचाये" पत्रांक: 8960-8 / दक्षिणविशालिफि / आरपीडीआरपी नॉट-ए / दिनांक: 28.08.2019

मुख्यालय: गौरा देवी पर्यावरण भवन

उत्तराखण्ड पर्यावरण संरक्षण एवं प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड

46-बी, आई.टी.पार्क, सहस्त्राचार रोड, देहरादून (उत्तराखण्ड), फोन 0135-2658086, फैक्स 0135-2718082, Website: www.ueppcb.uk.gov.in

पत्रांक- यूईपीसीबी/एचओ/नॉक-7211/704 दिनांक: 07/09/2019

पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई के लिये सूचना

M/s Smt. Asha Gariya W/o Shri Anil Gariya द्वारा Village-Karauli-Totigarh, Tehsil-Dugnakuri, Distt-Bageshwar Uttarakhand में Soap Stone Mining (Area-4.196Ha.) में 15463 टन प्रति वर्ष) हेतु पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति के लिये लोक सुनवाई का प्रस्ताव उत्तराखण्ड पर्यावरण संरक्षण एवं प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, देहरादून के समक्ष प्रस्तुत किया गया है। प्रस्ताव के लिये वन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के द्वारा Terms of Reference निर्धारित किये गये हैं, जिनके अन्तर्गत प्रस्तावक के द्वारा पर्यावरण प्रभाव मूल्यांकन रिपोर्ट एवं पर्यावरण प्रबंधन योजना आदि तैयार कर प्रस्तुत की गयी है। वन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार द्वारा जारी ई.आई.ए. अधिसूचना 14.09.2006 के अनुसार उक्त प्रकार की परियोजनाओं के क्रियान्वयन से पूर्व लोक सुनवाई का प्रावधान है, जिस हेतु 30 दिनों का नोटिस समाचार पत्रों के माध्यम से जन साधारण के संज्ञानार्थ दिया जाना आवश्यक है। लोक सुनवाई हेतु "पैनल" की संरचना उक्त अधिसूचना के अनुरूप निम्नवत् है:-

1. जिलाधिकारी, जनपद-बागेश्वर या उनके द्वारा नामित प्रतिनिधि जो अपर जिलाधिकारी स्तर से कम पद का न हो, लोक सुनवाई के अध्यक्ष।

2. उत्तराखण्ड पर्यावरण संरक्षण एवं प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड के प्रतिनिधि।

परियोजना से सम्बन्धित जमा समस्त अभिलेख क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय-देहरादून मुख्यालय, उत्तराखण्ड पर्यावरण संरक्षण एवं प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, देहरादून, क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, उत्तराखण्ड पर्यावरण संरक्षण एवं प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, हल्द्वानी, कार्यालय जिलाधिकारी, बागेश्वर, कार्यालय जिला पंचायत, बागेश्वर, जिला उद्योग केन्द्र, बागेश्वर एवं कार्यालय नगर पालिका, बागेश्वर में उपलब्ध हैं, जिनका कोई भी इच्छुक संस्था/व्यक्ति अवलोकन कर सकता है। पर्यावरण प्रभाव मूल्यांकन रिपोर्ट के सारांश की प्रति www.ueppcb.uk.gov.in पर भी उपलब्ध है।

M/s Smt. Asha Gariya W/o Shri Anil Gariya द्वारा Village-Karauli-Totigarh, Tehsil-Dugnakuri, Distt-Bageshwar Uttarakhand में Soap Stone Mining (Area-4.196Ha.) में 15463 टन प्रति वर्ष) की स्थापना हेतु प्रस्तावित लोक सुनवाई दिनांक 14.10.2019 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे से परियोजना स्थल पर निर्धारित की गयी है।

अतः सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है, कि अपने-अपने क्षेत्र से सम्बन्धित परियोजना के प्रस्ताव के सम्बन्ध में अपने मौखिक, लिखित, सुझाव, टीका टिप्पणियों एवं आपत्तियाँ इस कार्यालय अथवा बोर्ड के क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, यूईपीसीबी, हल्द्वानी में इस सूचना से सम्बन्धित विज्ञापन प्रकाशन की तिथि से 30 दिनों के अन्दर प्रेषित कर सकते हैं अथवा लोक सुनवाई के समय भी प्रस्तुत कर सकते हैं।

सदस्य सचिव
उत्तराखण्ड पर्यावरण संरक्षण एवं प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड

मुख्यालय: गौरा देवी पर्यावरण भवन

उत्तराखण्ड पर्यावरण संरक्षण एवं प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड

46-बी, आई.टी.पार्क, सहस्त्राचार रोड, देहरादून (उत्तराखण्ड), फोन 0135-2658086, फैक्स 0135-2718082, Website: www.ueppcb.uk.gov.in

पत्रांक- यूईपीसीबी/एचओ/नॉक-7211/704 दिनांक: 07/09/2019

पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई के लिये सूचना

M/s Smt. Asha Gariya W/o Shri Anil Gariya द्वारा Village-Karauli-Totigarh, Tehsil-Dugnakuri, Distt-Bageshwar Uttarakhand में Soap Stone Mining (Area-4.196Ha.) में 15463 टन प्रति वर्ष) हेतु पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति के लिये लोक सुनवाई का प्रस्ताव उत्तराखण्ड पर्यावरण संरक्षण एवं प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, देहरादून के समक्ष प्रस्तुत किया गया है। प्रस्ताव के लिये वन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के द्वारा Terms of Reference निर्धारित किये गये हैं, जिनके अन्तर्गत प्रस्तावक के द्वारा पर्यावरण प्रभाव मूल्यांकन रिपोर्ट एवं पर्यावरण प्रबंधन योजना आदि तैयार कर प्रस्तुत की गयी है। वन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार द्वारा जारी ई.आई.ए. अधिसूचना 14.09.2006 के अनुसार उक्त प्रकार की परियोजनाओं के क्रियान्वयन से पूर्व लोक सुनवाई का प्रावधान है, जिस हेतु 30 दिनों का नोटिस समाचार पत्रों के माध्यम से जन साधारण के संज्ञानार्थ दिया जाना आवश्यक है। लोक सुनवाई हेतु "पैनल" की संरचना उक्त अधिसूचना के अनुरूप निम्नवत् है:-

1. जिलाधिकारी, जनपद-बागेश्वर या उनके द्वारा नामित प्रतिनिधि जो अपर जिलाधिकारी स्तर से कम पद का न हो, लोक सुनवाई के अध्यक्ष।

2. उत्तराखण्ड पर्यावरण संरक्षण एवं प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड के प्रतिनिधि।

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New Delhi

Pics: Harmeet Sodhi

Duryodhan’s Mahabharat

In school he wanted to change his name, but has made peace with it now. Having fought ULFA militants while posted in Assam, the ‘ghatak commando’ finds competitive boxing much easier. He even battled depression when afflicted by vitiligo. GAURAV BHATT tells the story of India’s welterweight medal hope at the World Championship.

WHAT’S IN a name? Don’t ask a man who shares his with the chief antagonist of the great Indian epic Mahabharata.

“*Panditji ne pata nahi kya soch ke naam rakhi diya* (Don’t know what the priest was thinking when he named me),” wonders Duryodhan Singh Negi, India’s welterweight contender at the upcoming boxing World Championships in Russia. “My father too was very religious, so I’m guessing he didn’t interject either. Back in school, I even tried to get it changed but it didn’t work out.”

A common misconception about the eldest of the Kauravas, stemming from a cursory grasp of the linguistics, goes that Suyodhan became Duryodhan as his character grew viler, nevermind that both monikers are used interchangeably in several translations. The logic being *Su* means good, and *dur*, bad. (Think *durgam* i.e. inaccessible, like the treacherous Himalayan locale of Duratoli, Munsiyari in Pithoragarh district, Negi’s hometown).

“Honestly, I’m okay with it now. The target now is to make it to the point that if somebody looks up the name Duryodhan, it should show my picture,” Negi says. “I know 3–4 Duryodhans. Such names are common in our area,” sniggers Kavinder Singh Bisht, the bantamweight from Bungbung, 60km further east of Duratoli. “*Par yuddh tohi inhone hi lade hain* (but only this one has been in wars).”

Bisht, of course, alludes to Negi’s days of being a ‘ghatak commando’ for the 4th Kumaon regiment, a past which makes the latter a popular raconteur in the national camp at NIS, Patiala. “He is a very intelligent person. We all go to him when we have any doubt or want to discuss news. Everyone keeps asking him about army life. Tell me *bhai*, do you have any stories filled with action?”

There’s one in particular Negi uses for regaling purposes.

The firefight lasted about half an hour, and the soldiers checked the site the morning after. “Some fled, but 7-8 of them had died,” Negi says.

Negi recalls the chilly, sleepless nights of December 2008 in Assam’s Karbi Anglong district, spent in the open with a service rifle in his hands, on the lookout for ULFA militants. After receiving the intel, 4th Kumaon’s Charlie company advanced towards the hideout, nestled in the thick foliage of the Garo hills, and Negi was part of the raid.

“They had higher ground and direct advancing was risky, so our commanding officer played a trick. He took half the team through the main path. Our team of 8–10 soldiers moved slowly through the jungle towards their location. The militants were resting, and it was when we had sneaked really close to the hide-out, that a flashlight came on. We took our positions and opened fire.”

The firefight lasted about half an hour, and the soldiers checked the site the morning after. “Some fled, but 7–8 of them had died,” Negi says, a matter-of-fact retelling devoid of bravado. “It’s duty. As a soldier, certain things are expected of you. Just like as a boxer, I’m expected to do certain things.”

Surely any similarities end there? “You can say that,” Negi laughs. “Army experiences make training for world championship seem easy. I’ve finished the morning practice now, and I am free. I’ve got nothing to do with anybody. In the army, you could’ve had the most grueling of training sessions, with 2–3 hours of sleep, but you’d still have to be ready to go anywhere at any time. A soldier never switches off. That’s also a kind of fun I miss now.”

Growing up in a lower-middle class family in Uttarakhand — a state which contributes the second-most number of army recruits (100 per lakh) — meant enlistment was the default career option for Negi.

He passed all tests but the medical in 2003, failed on account of high blood pressure. Thoughts of giving up crossed his mind, but the simple sight of soldiers running in tandem every dawn kept fuelling the passion. Negi trained and got the BP under control, and made it the following year. “I just had to succeed. If before I wasn’t sure, after the failure I desperately wanted to be an army man. And I got postings in areas such as J&K, Nagaland and Assam, where you’re always waiting for intelligence, always ready to follow orders,” says Negi. “One has to be ready to put life on the line.”

Or take up boxing at the age of 26. Little difference, if you ask Negi.

“I was ordered to compete in the inter-battalion competition as part of the training. I had no experience, and I was very worried that my face will get smashed. I won that tournament. Perhaps others were more worried about their faces,” laughs Negi.

Boxing was new, but fighting was no big deal for Negi. Be it playfighting during rounds of *chor*-police, making loud *dishoom* noises lifted from Mithun Chakraborty films, or simply roughing up bullies. Negi did have a reference for boxing as well.

“I remember watching Suranjay’s Olympic quarterfinal (2000, Sydney) on *Doordarshan*. He was so close to winning the medal,” says Negi. “I met him sometime back at a camp, but couldn’t bring myself to walk up to him and tell him how much he inspired me.”

Bisht speaks of Negi with similar reverence. “I feel motivated just watching him train. I think, ‘If this guy is training like this at 34, why can’t I do it?’” says Bisht. 24. “My dream is that I box till I’m his age, and he continues till 40. Anybody who looks at him thinks he’s maximum 25–26. He trains more than us younger boxers at camp.”

Then there’s the fact that the two come from a region not exactly known for being a boxing hotbed.

“There is talent among juniors, but for so long it’s been the two of us, not just from the same state but the same district. He has been my room partner since 2015. I have seen all the ups and downs. So many competitions, trials. Never takes an off day, never breaks down,” says Bisht. “*Kabhi toote hue nahi dekha iss insaan ko* (I have never seen this guy break).”

Five years ago, Negi was broken to the point of keeping himself locked in a room. Everything seemed to be working out for Negi in 2014. A silver at the army nationals got him the chance to train at the state-of-the-art Army Sports Institute (ASI), Pune. He’d go on to win his first national title the same year. But it was the onset of vitiligo — an autoimmune condition that causes the skin to lose pigmentation — which left the boxer debilitated. The pale patches first appeared on the neck and fingers, then the face and within months Negi had lost pigment in almost all of his body.

The loss of pigmentation, and in turn confidence, meant that at a time when Negi should have been fighting rivals and jostling for the spotlight, he was left battling inner demons



Duryodhan Negi (R) with teammate Kavinder Bisht (L), 10 years his junior, and coach Khimanand Belwal, who helped him during his early days.

THE INDIAN CORNER

A look at the men’s squad that’ll compete at the World Championship

AMIT PANGHAL 52KG
The biggest medal hope. After the CWG silver and Asiad gold at 49kg last year, the move up to the Olympic category of 52kg was expected to be difficult for the 5’3” Panghal. He aced the litmus test with a gold at the Asian Championships. **THREATS:** Yosvany Veitia (Cuba, reigning world champion, 2019 PanAm silver), Daniel Asenov (Bulgaria, 2019 Euro silver)

KAVINDER BISHT 57KG
Bisht was one win away from a medal at the last edition. That was in 52kg, reached after a draining weight cut that almost made him walk away from the sport. Now boxing at bantamweight, Bisht got silver at the Asian C’ship, where he defeated the reigning world champion Kairat Yerallyev. **THREATS:** Yerallyev (Kazakhstan, reigning world champion), Duke Ragan (USA, 2017 silver, 2019 PanAm silver)

MANISH KAUSHIK 63KG
Kaushik was supposed to be India’s lightweight fix after the CWG silver last year, but trading wins with two-time Olympian Shiva Thapa took a toll on his confidence. With both boxers moving up to the bridging Olympic weight of 63kg, Kaushik got the last laugh at the selection trials in July. **Threat:** Andy Cruz (Cuba, 2017 world champion, PanAm champion)

DURYODHAN NEGI 69KG
The biggest tournament of the career of the 34-year-old, who qualified on the basis of consistent performances over the year and a win over Asian Championships bronze-medallist Ashish in the trials. Muscled out in the welterweight by boxers such as Manoj Kumar, and with seasoned Vikas Krishan dropping down to 69kg, Negi would hope to seize his chance. **Threat:** Roniel Iglesias (Cuba, 2017 silver medallist, PanAm champion)

ASHISH KUMAR 75KG
National bronze-medallist broke out on the scene seemingly out of nowhere

with a silver at the Asian Championships. Ashish had a run of close defeats and dubious decisions but tempering aggression in the ring has resulted in increased confidence and performance. Like Negi, for Ashish too this is a baptism by fire, with Olympic medallist Vijender Singh interested in an amateur comeback. **Threat:** Arlen Lopez (Cuba, Olympic champion, PanAm champion)

BRIJESH YADAV 81KG
With the light heavyweight division absent at CWG and Asian Games, Brijesh comes into the squad with a resume lighter than his celebrated peers. The one chance he got, at the Asian Championships, was ruined by a cut in the second round. With the category part of the Olympic scheme of things, the national silver medallist will look to be the top contender. **Threat:** Julio Cesar La Cruz (Cuba, Olympic, World and PanAm champion)

SANJEET 91KG
Once struggling to box out of the shadow cast by the much flashier Naman Tanwar, Sanjeet has become the top heavyweight thanks to multiple wins over his statemate, most recently in the trials. But with no major performance under his belt, and the heavyweight division stacked with talent at the world level, each win would be an upset for the 20-year-old. **Threat:** Erislandy Savon (Cuba, Olympic bronze, reigning World and PanAm champion)

SATISH KUMAR +91KG
The most consistent boxer in the Indian set-up (there aren’t many talented superheavyweights to choose from), Satish earned a silver at CWG (with wins over boxers from Trinidad & Tobago and Seychelles) and bronze at the Asian Championships. The 30-year-old will be outstruck by top boxers at the World level. **Threat:** Kamshybek Kunkabayev (Kazakhstan, World silver, Asian Championship silver)

and hiding from the public glare.

“It affected my confidence a lot. Whenever I would go out, I would feel that everybody is looking at me. It’s incurable too, but then somebody suggested Ayurveda, and that I should give up *doodh, dahi*. How could a boxer survive like that?”

It was when the funk started affecting his performance, that coach Narendra Rana and the rest of the coaching staff at the ASI staged an intervention. “It was depression, and you could see it in his boxing. I took other coaches and went to his room. We just reminded him that there are people less fortunate than him, struggling with various problems in life. ‘You have a fit body, you are a fit boxer, what’s this superficial thing holding you down for?’” recalls Rana. “I think the thing clicked when we assured him that it will have no effect on his boxing. I confirmed it with AIBA if such cases are considered fitness issues. We got him a certificate of full fitness after all the tests and everything. And that’s when I think it clicked for him that whatever this situation is, it’s not going to stop him from being a proper boxer.”

Negi says it was all about putting things in perspective.

“I realised that I have a wife, a son and a daughter who will always love me unconditionally. I know many differently-abled people, who not just battle every day but continue to live life and enjoy it. My problems were essentially only skin deep. I remember how tough it was, but the only message I have for anybody dealing with the same issue is that you try and feel comfortable in your own skin, in your mind,” says Negi. “Because honestly, if you feel comfortable and walk around with full confidence, then the rest of the world also treats you with respect and looks past your colour. It’s about the realisation that you aren’t suffering.” Now I go out without any issues,” says Negi, and with a chuckle adds: “In fact, I think I’m even better looking now.”

Being simultaneously older and less experienced than rivals is a stinging 1–2 to the body for a boxer. Negi thus was long overshadowed by senior boxers. Olympian Manoj Kumar was the chosen one when both competed at 64kg, and also when both moved up a division. As Manoj petered out, statemate Ashish took the reins, and despite finishing second to Negi at last year’s nationals, earned the Asian Championships call where he took bronze.

“I should have gotten a chance at such a major tournament before,” says Negi, who beat Ashish in the selection trials in July. “But I also started late so it’s nobody’s fault. There were doubts in my mind when I was the number 2 or 3 boxer. But it’s motivating that the coaching staff was keeping track of our performances and training.”

In fact, 17 months ago, half of this Indian squad — Negi, Bisht, Brijesh Yadav (81kg) and Sanjeet (91kg) — were B-listers competing in the semi-professional WSB competition in Rohtak, while the first-stringers basked in the glory of their CWG exploits. On one of those nights in Rohtak against Russians, Negi lost and Bisht won. But afterwards, both spoke with a hint of indifference about their performance, alluding to doubts about their place in the larger scheme of things.

“I was one win away from a medal at last

Worlds, and then last year I realised that I was the number 2 boxer in my division and that bothered me. But then again, it was my problem because I wasn’t sure of my weight and was thinking of going up a division,” says Bisht, who went from 52 to 56kg and has cleaned up the competitive division since.

“It’s understandable that a boxer will have doubts when they aren’t picked,” says high-performance director Santiago Nieva. “Those guys who were number 2, number 3 now know that there was nothing pre-decided on who the top guys are, who will go to all tournaments. Anyone who impresses, no matter the level of competition or even just during training sessions, will be selected for trials before major events.”

Nieva adds: “Duryodhan has a very high work rate, tremendous combinations and ability to put pressure on opponents. The problem was that he was not fast enough, and after some time his defence would start slipping and he would get punched. The defence has since improved, he has looked good in the training. I have high hopes for him.”

Negi is neither the most graceful welterweight nor the most technical. And at 5’6, he gives up inches in reach and height to most in the division. Simply put, in a division full of killers (like 2017 Worlds silver-medallist and current PanAm champion Roniel Iglesias of Cuba), Negi isn’t going to be a world-beater on tactical acumen alone. The one thing he has going for him is the gas tank. Staying at a distance against taller opponents presents the risk of being picked off. Negi fights close and relies on long combinations, a strategy demanding top-shelf endurance. Negi’s got stamina for days and the rule changes in amateur boxing, promoting aggressive punching, mean he will always be in with a shot.

“*Pahadis* are known to be naturally good when it comes to endurance. Then his years training with the army,” says Rana. “His game is built on offence, he doesn’t let his opponents breathe, and such offensive boxers with high endurance rule boxing in today’s world.”

Negi’s is a story of fighting odds as an outlier. From being unfit for the army to becoming a ‘ghatak commando’ engaged in firefights. From being scared from putting on the gloves to being the one dishing out pain in the ring. From lowly inter-battalion tournaments, being a gatekeeper in the national set-up, to becoming a medal hope at the World Championships. From standing out from the crowd to coming to terms with his own skin, and, not to forget, his name. “We used to watch *Mahabharat* on TV when we were kids, and nobody liked Duryodhana’s role. Negi’s parents or the priest must have had something in mind to name him Duryodhan. It is most definitely an unusual name... But it suits him,” Rana laughs but is quick to substantiate the remark. “Don’t get me wrong, outside of the ring he is a very honest and dedicated person. He never argued, no matter what the training. He is helpful and an all-around good fellow. But in the ring, he punishes opponents,” Rana says, adding just the perfect descriptor: “*Bohot kroor* boxer *hai*. (He is a cruel boxer). In the ring, he truly becomes Duryodhan.”

After all, in the literal sense, Duryodhan means an unconquerable fighter.

“ When I was going to the USA, I didn’t know it would be that good. I have to say I love USA DANIL MEDVEDEV, US OPEN FINALIST WHO HAS HAD RUN INS WITH THE FANS ”

Russ hour in New York

Russian fifth seed Daniil Medvedev stands in the way of Rafael Nadal and a 19th Grand Slam title

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 7

RAFAEL NADAL will play for his 19th Grand Slam title, one shy of Roger Federer's all-time men's record, after battling past Italy's Matteo Berrettini on Friday and into his fifth US Open final.

The 33-year-old Spaniard dispatched Berrettini 7-6 (8/6), 6-4, 6-1 at Arthur Ashe Stadium to reach a Sunday showdown against Russian fifth seed Daniil Medvedev, who ousted Bulgarian Grigor Dimitrov 7-6 (7/5), 6-4, 6-3.

"Very happy to be back into the final of the US Open," Nadal said. "It means a lot to be back where I am today after some tough moments at the beginning of the season."

Nadal, who shook off an early season right hip injury to win a 12th French Open title, seeks his fourth US Open crown — one shy of the Open-era record of five shared by Federer, Pete Sampras and Jimmy Connors — to reach the brink of Federer's mark.

"It's just another chance on Sunday," Nadal said. "I want to enjoy a day off, have a good practice and Sunday is the day to play my best."

Nadal, into his 27th Grand Slam final, beat Medvedev in last month's Montreal final in their only prior meeting. But the World No.2 skipped Cincinnati, where Medvedev was champion the following week. "He's one of the more solid players on tour," Nadal said of Medvedev. "He's making steps forward every single week. I need to be playing at my best."

Medvedev, in his first Grand Slam final at 23, has gone 20 for 2 in the past six weeks with runner-up efforts in Washington and Canada, a title in Cincinnati and a breakthrough US Open run. "I'm just happy to be in the final," Medvedev said. "When I was going to USA, I didn't know it was going to be this good. So I have to say I love USA."

Medvedev is the first Russian in a men's Grand Slam final since Marat Safin won the 2005 Australian Open title and the first Russian to reach the US Open final since Safin won the 2000 crown. Nadal has dropped only one set at the Open but was severely tested by 24th seed Berrettini, the first Italian man in the US Open semi-finals since Corrado Barazzutti in 1977.

Berrettini denied Nadal on six break points in the first set, jumped ahead 4-0 in the tie-break and seized two set points at 6-4 as the Ashe crowd roared with delight. But the Italian netted two backhand volleys, a baseline backhand and then hit a forehand long to hand Nadal the set.

"I was lucky to win that first set," Nadal said. "First set had been a little bit frustrating. You don't want to be in a tie-breaker against a player like Matteo after you have missed all those opportunities."

Nadal, who never faced a break point, took his first break for a 4-3 lead in the second set, held twice to take the set, then rolled to victory in two hours, 35 minutes. "I survived at the moment and finally I had the break in the second set and the match changed," Nadal said. "I played calm more and super aggressive."

US Open fans gave solid applause to Medvedev after earlier-round boos for flashing an obscene gesture and taunts saying he thrived on their jeers for energy to win. He later apologized.

Medvedev took the first-set tie-break after Dimitrov netted a forehand and sent another long on the last two points. "The confidence means a lot in this case because I do think he was better player in first set. I do think I was kind of lucky to win it," Medvedev said. "Then the momentum changed completely. I was playing better than him in the next two sets. We had some amazing level."

Dimitrov netted a backhand to surrender a break and the second set in the 10th game. Medvedev broke for a 3-1 lead in the third set and held to the finish.

"These crucial points, this moment in my game, there is something strong that makes me win these crazy sets and crazy matches, which maybe two months ago I would have lost," said Medvedev.

When I was going to the USA, I didn’t know it would be that good. I have to say I love USA

DANIIL MEDVEDEV, US OPEN FINALIST WHO HAS HAD RUN INS WITH THE FANS



Rafael Nadal has won the US Open on three previous occasions, in 2010, 2013 and 2017. USA Today

CAN MEDVEDEV BREAK THE BIG 3’S GRIP ON SLAMS?

For the 3rd consecutive year, the Big 3 of men's tennis – Federer, Nadal and Djokovic – are gunning for a clean sweep of the four Grand Slams in the calendar year. The last time it happened was in the 2006 – 2008 seasons. On Sunday, Nadal will have a chance to complete the hat-trick.

57 OF 59

Starting from the 2005 French Open final, at least one player from the Big 3 has reached the final 57 times in the last 59 majors. The only two exceptions were Marin Cilic's beating of Kei Nishikori at the 2014 US Open, and Andy Murray's 2016 Wimbledon title against Milos Raonic.

Martin Del Potro (2009), Murray (2012), Cilic (2014) and Stan Wawrinka (2016) are the four outside the Federer-Nadal-Djokovic triumvirate to have claimed the US Open title. In comparison, Wimbledon has had a winner outside the Big 3 twice – Murray winning in 2013 and 2016. Meanwhile Wawrinka is the only player to have claimed a title at the Australian Open (2014) and French Open (2015).

‘OUTSIDE’ CHALLENGE AT US OPEN

In the last 10 editions of each Grand Slam, the US Open has had more winners from outside the Big 3 than any other. Juan

NADAL’S RUN AGAINST OUTSIDERS

Nadal will play his 10th Slam final against a player apart from Federer & Djokovic. He has lost once, to Wawrinka (*14 Aus Open).



NADAL MAY be the clear favourite, but Medvedev has been the player to beat since the start of the hard court season in late-July. The world no 5 is currently on a 12-match winning run. He's won the last 20 of the 22 matches he's played since Wimbledon, making it to the finals of each of the four tournaments he's competed in – Washington Citi Open (lost to Nick Kyrgios), Montreal Masters (lost to Nadal), Cincinnati Masters (won against David Goffin), and the US Open.

MEDVEDEV’S RUN

The 23-year-old Russian has more number of tour-level wins this year than any other player. He's won a total of 50 matches, lost 16 and now made it to his seventh final this year – so far winning two. In comparison, Nadal has won 47 matches, lost six, and now reached his fifth final of the year.

Medvedev starts to prove doubters wrong

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 7

DANIIL MEDVEDEV has enjoyed silencing those who questioned his fiery temperament and wrote him off during his teenage years after a sizzling hardcourt season that has left him on the cusp of US Open glory. The Russian secured a place in his first Grand Slam final Friday with a 7-6 (7/5), 6-4, 6-3 defeat of Grigor Dimitrov, setting Medvedev up with an instant shot at revenge for last month's Montreal loss to Rafael Nadal.

However, his path to Sunday's championship match in New York has been a rocky ride — embraced at first by Medvedev but one he is now keen to forget as he tries to shed his image as the wacky villain.

Booed by fans after an obscene gesture in

the third round, Medvedev taunted them in response by saying he thrived on their jeers for the energy to win. He later apologized and admitted it has been a long road to clean up his act. "There were many who would say, coaches or something, at the age of 16 or 14, I could get engaged during the match because I thought they clapped on a double-fault or something. I would scream at them. They would scream at me," Medvedev recalled of his younger years.

"Many of these people would say, 'Okay, the guy is completely crazy, he's never been a good tennis player.' Which is maybe happened to some of the tennis players. I'm glad I proved them wrong. Talk about reactions, they were totally different. Some wanted to just help me get better. Some, as I say, said, 'OK, who is this crazy guy and what is he doing on the tennis court?' I've improved big-

time. Hopefully I will improve even more."

The glacial relations with the Flushing Meadows faithful appears to be thawing, the frosty reception that greeted his quarter-final entrance against Stan Wawrinka replaced by more generous applause ahead of his clash with Dimitrov. While 18-time Grand Slam champion Nadal figures to attract considerable support from the 24,000 fans at Arthur Ashe Stadium in the final, Medvedev doesn't expects the boos to return. "I would be surprised, but I would have to take the energy and go again with this energy. As I say, I'm not proud of what I did. I'm working to never do it again," said Medvedev, described as a misunderstood genius by his coach. "I will not say that I'm a kind person or a good person. I can only say I'm a really calm person in life. I actually have no idea why the demons go out when I play tennis."

Medvedev was hit with a \$9,000 fine for

his antics in the third-round win over Feliciano Lopez, his third fine in as many matches, but the 23-year-old — a mellow figure off the court — wants his racquet to do the talking in future.

"I lost a lot of matches in my career when I was getting crazy. You never know when you lose a match just because you lost it or because you get crazy and lost some concentration. You can never be sure about it," he said.

"I was sitting after these matches, I was like, 'I don't want to lose these matches because I get crazy or because I lose some concentration because of the fans, because of the referees, something that happens during the match.' I want to lose matches because I was a worst tennis player on the court than my opponent. If I manage to do it every time, that's going to be great."

Time for selectors to take a call on Dhoni: Kumble

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 7

FORMER INDIA captain and coach Anil Kumble is "not sure" whether Mahendra Singh Dhoni fits in the current set-up and wants the selectors to have a "conversation" with him before preparing for a send-off benefiting his contribution. Dhoni's future in international cricket has been a subject of debate and there are enough indications that the selectors are looking ahead.

"I'm not really sure. I think Pant has certainly made a lot of claims as a keeper-batsman, especially in the T20 format. So, it's important to have a conversation and you need to have a proper send-off, he certainly deserves that," Kumble told CricketNext when asked if he would like to see Dhoni continue in top flight cricket.

It's for MSK Prasad's committee to decide whether they want to look back or move forward. "But having said that, Pant has also shown some inconsistency. That's a call the selectors need to make. Today, in spite of all of that, are you going to back him (Pant) or

someone else, or would you look back. I wouldn't but I think it's important that the selectors take a call on that."

Kumble wants the selectors to decide in the next couple of months the way forward.

"...For the team's sake, the selectors need to sit down and have as discussion around what the plans are because it's important that things be communicated. If the selectors believe that Dhoni is in the scheme of things for the T20 World Cup, then I think he should be playing every game. If he's not, then it's important that they have a discussion around how they need to make this happen. I think they need to do that in the next couple of months," said India's highest wicket-taker across formats.

Kumble also said that he is not very sure whether Rohit Sharma is the perfect choice for the Test opener slot. "You only know when you actually do that but I am not really sure about pushing Rohit at the top unless it is a desperate situation. Yes, are we in a desperate situation where we are looking for an opener in someone who has done well at the domestic level, is it worth considering that or should Rohit."

BRIEFLY

Azad, Verma tons power India U19

Moratuwa: Opener Arjun Azad and No.3 NT Tilak Verma scored hundreds as India comfortably crushed arch-rivals Pakistan by 60 runs in an U-19 Asia Cup encounter here on Saturday. Batting first, India scored a challenging 305 for 9 in 50 overs riding on 183-run second wicket stand between Arjun (121 off 111 balls) and Tilak (110 off 119 balls). In reply, Pakistan were never in contention as they were bowled out for 245 in 46.4 overs. Left-arm spinner Atharva Ankolekar took 3 for 36 in 10 overs. Medium pacers Vidyadhar Patil and Sushant Mishra chipped in with a couple of wickets each. The right-hander, Arjun hit eleven fours and four sixes while Tilak had 10 boundaries and a six to his credit. None of the other India batsmen could surpass individual score of 20 as Pakistan seamers Naseem Shah (3/52) and Abbas Afridi (3/72) were taken to task despite returning with three wickets apiece.

BRIEF SCORES: India 305/9 in 50 ovs (Arjun Azad 121, NT Tilak Verma 110; Naseem Shah 3/52, Abbas Afridi 3/72) bt Pakistan 245 in 46.4 overs (Rohail Khan 117, Haris Khan 43; Atharva Ankolekar 3/36). **PTI**

India Red wins by an innings and 38 runs

Bangalore: Vidharbha off-spinner Akshay Wakhare returned with a five-wicket haul to help India Red beat India Green by an innings and 38 runs and clinch the Duleep Trophy title here on Saturday. Wakhare (5/13) spun the web around India Green batsmen to bowl them out for 119 in 39.5 overs in the second innings on the fourth day. India's Red's title triumph was the only outright result in the four matches played in the season opening tournament. Earlier, India Red extended their lead to 157 runs as Aditya Sarwate (38) and Jaydev Unadkat (32 not out) batted in a resolute manner, resuming at the overnight score of 345 for 6. Ankit Rajpoot and left-arm spinner Dharmendrasinh Jadeja finished with three wickets each. India Green's second innings fell apart apart openers — Faiz Fazal, the captain and Akshath Reddy (33) — were separated when the former nicked one from Unadkat to keeper Ishan Kishan on 10.

BRIEF SCORES: India Green: 231 all out in 72.1 overs (Mayank Markande 76 n.o.; Jaydev Unadkat 4/58) & 119 all out in 39.5 ovs (SD Lad 44, Akshath Reddy 33, A Wakhare 5/13) lost to India Red 388 all out in 135 overs (Abhimanyu Easwaran 153; Ankit Rajpoot 3/101, Dharmendrasinh Jadeja 3/93, M Markande 1/24, Tanveer ul-Haq 2/66). **PTI**

Jain loses to World No.1, bags silver

New Delhi: India's Payas Jain lost to top-seed and world number 1 Yuanyu Chen of China 0-4 to settle for the silver medal in the 25th Asian Junior and Cadet Table Tennis Championships in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on Saturday. Jain did show his aggression initially but in the face of a fine attacking play by the Chinese, the Delhi paddler wilted and lost 11-13 6-11 8-11 5-11 in less than 20 minutes. There was a time in the first game when Jain matched his Chinese rival and even deuced after trailing. But the top-seeded Chinese converted the point at the second opportunity to go ahead. After that, it was a one-way traffic as Chen made most of Jain's mistakes to cash in on when the Chinese went for his favourite blocks. Jain's silver medal earned him a berth in the Asian squad which will participate in the World Cadet Challenge at Wladyslawowo (Poland) in October. India's campaign at the championships ended with two silver medals — one by the junior boys team and another by Jain. **PTI**

1ST TEST Afghanistan continue to torment Bangladesh

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
CHITTAGONG, SEPTEMBER 7

IBRAHIM ZADRAN and Asghar Afghan hit half-centuries while Rashid Khan played a quick cameo after claiming five wickets in an innings, as Afghanistan took command in the one-off Test against Bangladesh in Chittagong on Saturday.

The visitors — playing only their third Test in history — reached 237 for 8 at stumps on the third day, setting a huge target for Bangladesh by taking an overall lead of 374 runs. Debutant Zadran hit highest 87 off 208 balls for Afghanistan in the second innings while former skipper Afghan made 50 off 108 balls, his second fifty, adding to Bangladesh's frustration.

Rashid added 24 off 22 balls before wicket-keeper-batsman Afsar Zazai's unbeaten 34 runs extended Afghanistan's lead. Skipper Shakib Al Hasan took three wickets for Bangladesh, including two in the first over of the innings, but Zadran and Afghan shared



Rashid Khan (5/55) was the pick of the bowlers for Afghanistan. *File*

108 runs for the fourth wicket to snatch the momentum back for Afghanistan.

Shakib trapped Ihsanullah Janat for four in the third ball of the innings and then dismissed first innings centurion Rahmat Shah

for a golden duck in the next ball.

Afghan, who also made 92 runs in the first innings, joined Zadran after off-spinner Nayeem Hasan removed Hashmatullah Shahidi for 12. Taijul Islam dismissed Afghan,

who hit four fours and two sixes in his second fifty of the game, before Nayeem ended Zadran's brilliant innings featuring six fours and four sixes. The spinner also dismissed Mohammad Nabi in the next ball after the all-rounder hit him for a six to revive some hope for Bangladesh. Rashid then took the attack on Nayeem, hitting him for five boundaries in one over before Taijul bowled him finally.

The Afghan skipper earlier completed his five-wicket to finish with 5-55 as Afghanistan bowled out Bangladesh for 205 runs in the first innings after the hosts resumed the third day's play with 194-8.

Rashid, who scored 51 runs with the bat making his debut as youngest-ever Test captain, took the final wicket of Nayeem to wrap up Bangladesh's innings after Nabi gave a breakthrough in the first over of the day.

BRIEF SCORES: Afghanistan 342 all out in 117 ovs & 237 for 8 in 83.4 ovs (Ibrahim Zadran 87, Asghar Afghan 50; Shakib Al Hasan 3/53) vs Bangladesh 205 all out in 70.5 ovs (Mominul Haque 52; Rashid Khan 5/55)

Ferrari’s Leclerc takes pole in Italian GP

REUTERS
MONZA, SEPTEMBER 7

CHARLES LECLERC put Ferrari on pole position for their home Italian Formula One Grand Prix on Saturday in a qualifying session that ended in farce and with drivers under investigation. Five times world champion Lewis Hamilton joined the 21-year-old Monegasque on the front row for Mercedes, with Finnish team mate Valtteri Bottas third and Ferrari’s Sebastian Vettel fourth.

The last lap saw nine drivers cruising around, weaving and braking but with nobody willing to take the lead, and only McLaren’s Carlos Sainz making it to the line in time for a final fast lap. He ended up seventh. "That was worse than a junior formula," a fuming Toto Wolff, team principal of world champions Mercedes, told Sky Sports television. "The problem was everyone wants a slipstream and nobody wants to go first...and then everyone looks like idiots."

Stewards said in a note on the timing screens that the last lap was under investigation. Alfa Romeo’s Kimi Raikkonen, the other driver through to the final phase of qualifying and last year’s pole sitter for Ferrari, had earlier crashed at Parabolica — halting the session for 11 minutes.

When the session re-started, with Leclerc on provisional pole after setting the pace before the red flag, there were minutes of inaction. That was followed by a sudden flurry, with cars streaming out of the pitlane and jostling for position in a closely-grouped pack. The irony of the slowest of qualifying laps at the fastest of tracks, a circuit where slipstreaming can be a huge benefit to lap times, was not lost on Hamilton, who has taken more poles than any driver in history. "They basically timed us out," said Hamilton. "It's interesting. Get pole position in the first run and then just time everyone out. "It's dangerous for us all. There's people slowing down and you don't know who's alongside you and that," he continued. "It's definitely risky business out there."

Ferrari’s army of fans were left celebrating anyway in grandstands strewn with banners from all over Italy declaring their passion and loyalty. The pole was Leclerc’s fourth of the season and second in a row. The Monegasque will be chasing his second successive victory on Sunday after winning for the first time in Belgium last weekend.

"I'm happy with the pole but it's a shame at the end there was a big mess and I hoped our last lap was enough," said the youngster. "I think the pace was quite good actually during the race simulations," he said of Ferrari’s hopes of ending a win drought at Monza dating back to 2010, when Spaniard Fernando Alonso was triumphant.

"It's looking positive, better than in Spa." Renault’s Nico Hulkenberg, who qualified a provisional sixth and behind Australian team mate Daniel Ricciardo in fifth, took much of the heat afterwards for running off track after being first out of the pits.

MONZA QUALIFYING			
Pos	Driver	Car	Time
1	Leclerc	Ferrari	1:19.307
2	Hamilton	Mercedes	1:19.346
3	Bottas	Mercedes	1:19.354
4	Vettel	Ferrari	1:19.457
5	Ricciardo	Renault	1:19.839

Thriller on the cards

Australia declare gamely to set England a target of 383; hosts lose Burns, Root to finish Day Four at 18 for 2



Steve Smith followed up his first-innings double ton with 82 off just 92 balls as Australia declared late on Day Four at Old Trafford. Reuters

AGENCIES
MANCHESTER, SEPTEMBER 8

ENGLAND FOUND themselves with a fight on their hands at stumps on Day Four of the fourth Ashes Test after being reduced to 18 for 2 in 7 overs. They had been set a target of 383. The hosts seemed to be losing grip over proceedings after Australia gamely declared at 186 for 6 in 42.4 overs with Steve Smith once again proving to be the thorn in the flesh of England bowlers with a quickfire 82 off 92.

Even when Smith was dismissed off left-arm spinner Jack Leach, it was more a case of the batsman going for quick runs with a declaration looming rather than England foxing him. England’s hopes of surviving the last 40 minutes without losing a wicket went up in smoke as Pat Cummins dismissed Rory Burns in the third ball of the innings and in the next ball had captain Joe Root bowled with one that nipped off the seam and hit the top of off-stump. A grim-faced Root walked off with the look of a man who knew that his team would have to face a tough battle on the final day.

The England batsman would have been happy not to face any more overs from the Australian quicks who had their tails up.

With the five-match series at 1-1, Australia can retain the Ashes with victory at Old Trafford. That’s more likely than England surviving a fifth-day pitch against an Australia team full of self-belief. The forecast is for a dry Sunday. After England’s first innings was ended on 301, conceding a lead of 196, Smith and Matthew Wade revived Australia from 44-4 in their second innings with a stand of 105.

Wade added 34, and captain Tim Paine had



Josh Hazlewood took four wickets in the first innings giving away 57 runs.

the luxury of declaring their second innings on 186 for 6 in the middle of the 43rd over, and a lead of 382. On 23 not out at the time, Paine sprinted off the Old Trafford field so he could give his bowlers seven overs to attack England in evening light.

Smith was at his best yet again and looked set for another big score, but put his team’s needs - that of a quick declaration before his personal milestone. It once again looked like a hundred was there for the taking and it was only his unusual haste to up the runrate that saw him perish. The Australian innings didn’t begin on a bright note as open David Warner continued to struggle against the pace of Stuart

Smith was at his best once again and looked set for another big score, but put his team’s needs - that of a quick declaration before his personal milestone. It once again looked like a hundred was there for a taking and it was only his unusual haste to up the runrate that saw him perish.

Broad.

Broad dismissed David Warner for a third duck in as many Test innings at Old Trafford on Saturday as the England paceman continued to torment the Australia opener in the Ashes series. Broad, bowling from around the wicket, had left-hander Warner lbw sixth ball to leave Australia none for one in their second innings of the fourth Test.

Broad also had Warner caught behind for nought in Australia’s first innings 497-8 declared, having had him lbw for nought in the second innings of England’s dramatic one-wicket win in the third Test at Headingley.

This is Warner’s first Test series since a 12-month ban for his role in a ball-tampering scandal in South Africa.

But this Ashes has seen the 32-year-old Warner, now playing in his 78th Test, become Broad’s ‘bunny’.

Saturday’s dismissal meant 33-year-old fast-medium bowler Broad had now taken Warner’s wicket six times this series for a cost of 32 runs in 93 balls. Warner, who did not even bother to review umpire Marais Erasmus’s decision when given out on Saturday, is only the third Australia opening batsman to make three successive noughts in Test cricket after Victor Trumper in 1908 and Graeme Wood in 1980.

Marnus Labuschagne failed to reach fifty

for the first time in four Test innings since coming in as a substitute for Smith at Lord’s when he was bowled lbw for 11 by Archer. Labuschagne appeared to take exception to being given a ‘send-off’ by Broad as he left the field.

Travis Head then exchanged words with Archer after being hit by a rising delivery on the left bicep. The next delivery saw Head drive Archer through the covers for four, but the ball afterwards saw Head clean bowled middle stump for 12 by a 91.7 mph Archer delivery that beat his forward defensive stroke. England, who resumed on their overnight 200-5, avoided following-on with just one wicket standing thanks to Jos Buttler’s cover-driven four off Mitchell Starc.

That boundary came after Australia were unable to challenge an lbw decision against No 11 Jack Leach — whose last-man resistance in support of century-maker Ben Stokes helped England win at Headingley — because they had used up all their reviews.

Buttler was last man out in total of 301, bowled for 41 by Pat Cummins.

BRIEF SCORES: Australia 497 for 8 dcl'd in 126 ovs & 186 for 6 dcl'd in 42.5 ovs (S Smith 82, M Wade 34; J Archer 3/45) vs England 301 all out in 107 ovs & 18 for 2 in 7 ovs (P Cummins 2/8)

Netherlands give Loew’s Germany a reality check

REUTERS
HAMBURG, SEPTEMBER 6

NETHERLANDS SCORED four times in 32 second-half minutes to secure a remarkable 4-2 comeback victory against hosts Germany in their Euro 2020 Group C qualifier on Friday. Goals from Frenkie de Jong, a Jonathan Tah own goal, Donyell Malen and Georginio Wijnaldum wrapped up the win after Serge Gnabry had given the hosts an early lead and Toni Kroos had pulled them level at 2-2 with a controversial penalty.

The result leaves Germany on nine points from four games, three behind leaders Northern Ireland, who they face on Monday in Belfast. The Netherlands move to six points from three games and next face bottom side Estonia. It was a winning return to Hamburg for Dutch coach Ronald Koeman, who won in the port city against the Germans as a player during Euro’88, and a clear mark of his team’s improvement after they failed to reach the last two major tournaments. "I told my players (at halftime) to stay in the game, not to give them so much space, control the ball better," Koeman told reporters. "That we should just keep going and we would get our chances. In the second half the Germans looked more tired and we benefited from that." "Overall we worked harder than Germany for this victory," he said.

Joachim Loew’s Germany side, undergoing their own overhaul after a disappointing 2018 World Cup first round exit and Nations League relegation, got off to a good start with Gnabry scoring on the rebound in the ninth minute. There was little to be seen in terms of attacks from the Netherlands but that changed after the break. They turned the game around within seven minutes, first scoring through De Jong in the 59th and then taking the lead courtesy of Tah’s unfortunate own goal.

The Germans, missing several injured players, including Leroy Sane and Leon Goretzka, were struggling with the Dutch pace down the wings and were lucky to level with a 73rd minute Kroos penalty after Matthijs de Ligt accidentally handled.

There is no video replay for referees in the qualifiers. The visitors got revenge for their 3-2 loss in Amsterdam in March, striking through debutant Malen in the 79th after a quick combination left the German defence frozen. Wijnaldum completed the victory in stoppage time and ended Germany’s 14-match winning run in World Cup and Euro qualifiers.

"We played below our skill level and abilities," Loew told reporters. "The Dutch were the better team and we deserved to lose. We went ahead but I never had the feeling that we were in control of the game."

Robertson upset

Scotland captain Andy Robertson delivered a withering verdict on their 2-1 Euro 2020 qualifying defeat by Russia on Friday which he said was one of the most disappointing of his career. Liverpool defender Robertson said Scotland appeared scared after taking the lead at Hampden Park and then leaking goals either side of halftime. The Scots are fourth in Group I, nine points adrift of leaders Belgium, who they play in Glasgow on Monday, six behind Russia and a point off Kazakhstan. "(The defeat) was one of the most disappointing because of how much was on the line," said Robertson. "We had a chance to go level with them and that would have opened this group right up. Referring to Scotland’s disappointing results over recent years, he added: "Russia are a very good team, so it’s probably not up there with the Georgia (1-0) and Kazakhstan (3-0)

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